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Groundhog Day at Mid-Winter 2021

By George B. Emmons

We always welcome the arrival of mid-winter along the Southcoast of Buzzards Bay as a seasonal sense of satisfaction that the bleak shoreline outside our picture window is now six weeks behind us.

On Groundhog Day, the sun rose a few minutes before 7:00 am and set at 5:00 pm for nine hours of daylight that will become 12 hours at the vernal equinox when the hours of light and shadow are the same all over the world.

The annual ceremony of observance in this country is 130 years old since 1887 in the western agricultural custom of the Pennsylvania Dutch farmers that superseded a religious holiday of Candlemas when candles were lighted for a parade for recognition of the celestial station on earth for mid-winter. The groundhog replaced the badger as the original hibernating prophet in seeing or not seeing its shadow to predict the arrival of spring.

My illustration is a drawing of a groundhog that came to be known as the celebrated Punxsutawney Phil on the shoulders of a member of the Grundsow Lodge with a top hat to formalize the traditional ritual.



This moment in time broadcast widely on mass media features Phil being awakened from deep winter sleep and looking annoyed at his handler, who wears gloves to avoid being bitten. If Phil sees his shadow, it is a bad omen for a long winter, which to most people might seem to be the opposite of what might be the more logical deduction.

However, this atmospheric phenomenon of a seasonal weather prediction that originated in early German history spread all over the world, including France, Russia, and England. The date itself is a cross-quarter day that falls between solstices and equinoxes of the four seasons. Another one is the literary mid-summer night dream of Shakespearian drama.

The very ordinary farm rodent, also commonly called a woodchuck, plays a perfect role as a seasonal sentinel standing early and late in the day, casting his shadow during daylight hours. When the sun goes down, he retreats to the subterranean chambers of his den to slumber in a twilight zone of a light meter in his head that measures his activities around the clock.

And on this celestial station in the heavens down on Earth, it is ceremoniously elevated to play a human-like, anthropomorphic prophet to benefit mankind with a weather predication based upon its own shadow. For the readers of this article, I may have illustrated a classic example of modern-day environmental awareness for your entertainment.

On the Cover: *The winner of this year's Groundhog Cover Contest is Caroline Houdelette's addition to the Bernie Sanders craze, which went viral after the Presidential Inauguration. Congratulations, Caroline, and thank you to everyone who entered. We had so many great entries this year! All of this year's entries can be found on page 48.*

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Selectman Paul Silva Not Seeking Reelection

By Marilou Newell

Mattapoisett Selectman Paul Silva will not be seeking reelection. On February 1, Silva reached out to *The Wanderer* to share his decision.



"I'm one that believes in term limits, and I've been a selectman for 12 years," Silva said with a small chuckle. "It's time for new blood."

Silva has given his time and talents to the community in other ways over a civic career that spans the last 20 years.

Beginning with the Marine Advisory Board, Silva was then appointed to the Finance Committee during a time when stabilization funds were thin at best. "Over the years, we've been able to establish stabilization funds for such things as our local schools and OPEB." Where once there might have been a few thousand dollars in reserve, "We've got about $2 million now."

In deciding to run for selectman, Silva hoped that his background on the other committees, including the Old Rochester Regional School Committee, and his deep understanding of municipal financial processes would earn him a chance from the voters.

Silva said that the community's biggest issue 12 years ago was the lack of reserve funds, but he also pointed to the low economy in and around 2008. One large project that helped the community begin a foundation for stabilization funding was the Bay Club subdivision. But even earlier, while he was on FinCom, revenue was an issue. "We felt strongly that any new dollars coming from the expanded tax base should be put in stabilization funds," he said.

Looking forward, Silva sees a town whose financial standing is in a much better place than it was 12 years ago, but new revenue sources will still be important. "Maybe with the improvements to the Industrial Drive, more businesses will come here."

Silva also said it would be necessary to consider whether or not combining the local elementary schools can be done. "If we can move all the students to Old Hammondtown School, then Center School could become the new town hall with expanded space for senior activities," he explained.



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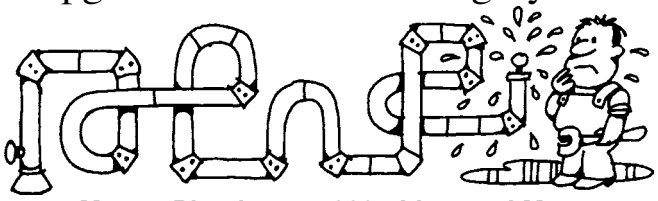
Silva pointed to the need to lower the overall operating costs of the two schools. He also said that it was time to look at the Water and Sewer Departments and find a singular, centralized location for those operations versus the hodgepodge of buildings, including rented spaces that are now utilized.

Regarding his involvement with the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District, where he held the position of treasurer for 12 years and currently sits on the commission, Silva said the jury is out on his continued participation.

Silva said one of the reasons he is announcing his decision at this time is to give potential candidates adequate time to begin their pursuit of the seat he will be vacating come May.

Silva's parents came to Mattapoisett many decades ago when he was a small child. They built a summer home on Mattapoisett Neck where, in 1985, he and his wife, Phyllis, would also build, making it their year-round home and raising their son, Jared, who attended the local elementary schools.

And what about the future? After giving many hours each week to community service for two decades, would

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stepping down as selectman leave a big hole in his calendar? Not for Silva, who said, "Phyllis and I have plans to travel back to the Azores and the European continent, and we'd like to finish our trip to Madeira." Silva was in Portugal last March when the couple had to return home due to the pandemic. "We were a third of the way through our trip when that hit.… We caught the next-to-the-last flight home!" The couple also hopes to buy a second home in the Azores where they can spend the winter months.

Scholarship Fund on the Rise

Marion Scholarship Education Fund Committee

By Mick Colageo

Chairperson Marthe Soden was delighted to report to the Marion Scholarship Education Fund Committee that the town's scholarship fund is approaching $3,000.

Referencing a January 29 discussion with Marion Finance Director Judy Mooney, Soden relayed the figure is up to $2,789. "That's like $3,000 to me," she said when the committee met on February 2 via Zoom. "This is great because the last time ... we were able to give one $750 scholarship. That's like one textbook these days."

The meeting was also attended by committee members Steve Cook and Old Rochester Regional Superintendent of Schools Mike Nelson.

Soden also reported that the Education Fund stands at $1,396, an encouraging sign, especially after last fall's purchase of a large, portable touchscreen for Sippican School. Soden said the committee's fundraising had been limited to an inclusion that went out with tax bills.

It is expected the committee will send out notices in the local press soliciting scholarship applications. "Due to the generosity of the Marion residents, we have scholarships to offer," said Soden. Nelson said he would handle the publicity.

The final item on the agenda was new members. "We have a lovely little committee, but we could use a little infusion of new blood," said Soden, who pitched Patricia White for the committee's consideration. Soden said White has experience on other committees that award scholarships, including an artists' collaborative, and reported White's interest.

The committee anticipates setting a date for its next meeting after scholarship applications are in.

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DECA a Game Changer for ORR Students

By Mick Colageo

Raegan Rapoza was a sophomore at Old Rochester Regional High School when she was walking to basketball practice and spotted Eddie Gonet and Ryu Huynh-Aoyama in the library with "a bunch of food and a bunch of people." Rapoza decided to sit down and listen.



"It was enticing," she said, hearing the co-founders of ORR's DECA chapter talk about travel opportunities and potential scholarships. "It definitely did help me choose my major for college. Last year, I was thinking about elementary education until I competed in DECA. It introduced me to the whole business concept."

On January 29, ORR's growing DECA chapter met in the school cafeteria for a socially distanced assembly honoring award recipients from the recent regional competition. As a school, ORR finished fourth among 12 region schools, albeit without a business curriculum. A total of 34 students qualified to compete at the state level, up from 17 for the 2019-20 academic year.



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"A big difference between last year and this year is we extended it to the junior high. They have Drama Club and sports.... We wanted to give them not only an opportunity to join the club but an easier transition to the high school," explained Gonet, a junior who serves as co-president with sophomore Teddy Carroll.

Four of the 12 junior high students made it to the state competition, "Which we were over the moon about," said Gonet. "They're very talented. It was great news to see that. They'll be even more prepared for next year, which is great. Now they could have six years of experiencing the program.... We all wish we could have more time with it."

Two years ago, Gonet was a freshman when he co-founded ORR's DECA chapter with Huynh-Aoyama, a 2020 ORR graduate now studying at the UMass Isenberg School of Management. Founded in 1946 as the Distributive Education Clubs of America, the international organization DECA is now a major extracurricular at ORR with 61 students, up from 45 a year ago.



As Gonet explained, each point of the DECA diamond logo represents the organization's four core categories: Management, Hospitality, Finance, and

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Marketing, and its four core values of Competence, Integrity, Teamwork, and Innovation. The competitions consist of hypothetical, real-world-type problem solving, and Huynh-Aoyama called DECA "a business lesson to itself."

"I've always been interested in business and economics, and how the economy works, the driving factors.... [DECA] also seemed like a fun opportunity at the time," said Carroll, a sophomore from Fairhaven who's going on 16.

Carroll competed in a Hotel and Lodging Management series event, taking a test based on categories related to the subject such as hospitality, general business questions, hotel-related questions, desk complaints, etc.

In the competition's role-play segment, Carroll's challenge was to address a hypothetical guest requesting to leave a sign on their door. "We had to come up with our own rules" and how to go about making a policy. "The three hours, that was probably the hardest challenge.... DECA, you have to think on your feet. You're preparing your answer right after seeing the problem for the first time. The three hours went by really, really fast."

DECA takes up time, especially for the co-presidents, but Carroll is an organized young man who typically runs cross-country and winter and spring track. He also joined the Debate Club, making it three extracurricular activities. He expects to pursue a future in engineering. "I've always enjoyed that, and maybe a minor in economics," he said. "If you could combine an engineering mindset with a business mindset..."

DECA competition opened a portal to a new world for Rapoza, who found the experience to be at once nerve-wracking and energizing. "It really did; I never thought it would have done that. It definitely changed my life," she said. "I was competing, my heart was pounding, but it was so thrilling it just opened my eyes up. DECA helped me with my public-speaking skills.... I was so shy. Going to Boston last year, I got to talk to so many people with similar interests."

On the ground floor, Rapoza is an 18-year-old senior now, using the DECA experience to shape her future. The Marion native competed most recently with fellow senior Meghan Horan as partners in the Sports and Entertainment Team Decision category.

As COVID-19 has affected education altogether, it changed DECA for the 2020-21 school year as the competition was held entirely online. Rather than 10 minutes to be presented a business challenge with 10 minutes to huddle and 10 minutes to present, students were given three hours, including one hour of preparation and an hour to upload a video presentation to the competition's YouTube channel.

Rapoza and Horan were managers of a miniature golf rewards program and used a phone app program with different levels of investment, along with social media and advertising. But they were also creative in showing the wherewithal to cycle back to old methods to bridge the gaps that a video interview typically cannot close. They made scrap-paper graphs and visuals for judges to see and hold to the camera on Zoom.

"When doing these role plays, you have to add your

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own little taste to it just to make sure you stand out," said Rapoza. "It's definitely a big surprise when you get the results back."

ORR's DECA chapter has several vice presidents, and Rapoza serves as V.P. of Career Development. A key role is coaching up students for their role play and testing. Through a family-friend connection, she enlisted the guidance of UMass Isenberg School of Management graduate Austin Blair. "He gave us some really good tips," said Rapoza, who also wants to bring in ORR English teacher Mike Beson to help students better understand how to prepare their resumes and sharpen their interview skills. "Last year, he devoted a whole lesson to it, and it was very helpful."

Friday's awards event saw 93 trophies and medals

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collected, and students were greeted as they entered the cafeteria by pianist Mason Tucker, the ultra-talented ORR senior.

In his introductory remarks, Gonet publicly thanked the Tri-Town Education Foundation for its assistance, a $2,000 grant that drastically reduced the membership fee for the school year from $60 to $25. Next year there are plans to compete on Cape Cod, twice to Boston and as far away as Georgia, with Disney World on the radar for 2023. DECA was supposed to visit Disneyland in the 2020 spring semester, but that trip was canceled by the coronavirus pandemic.

"Most schools are doing an awards ceremony over Zoom. We were fortunate to do it in person. We don't get to see half the kids," said Gonet, noting the cohort system of hybrid school attendance made Friday's meeting extra special. "We're actually the first kids at ORR to stay after school in person."

For a list of awards recipients, visit www.wanderer.com.

Fashion Insights with Abigail Field

World War I: The Impact on Fashion

By Marilou Newell

Abigail Field has studied history and fashion at UMass Dartmouth, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. Field learned how events in human history have led to changes in clothing, and she enjoys sharing her knowledge and insights on the topic. She recently delighted an online audience hosted by the Sippican Historical Society with her presentation of Women's Clothing in WWI: A Turning Point.

Field is, among other things, a collector of vintage women's clothing, which adds to the dimension of her presentations, such as when she pointed out the evolution of the corset.

While holding and displaying a flexible corset from 1810, Field said this foundational piece completely changed during the years of the First World War. She said the WWI style of corset was "lightly boned" and added, "They were excellent for breast and back support." The corset was the precursor of the modern-day bra, providing a lift to the bosom.

But that was just the beginning of the many layers that women wore before the war, Field stated. While most of the many undergarments were of thin, gauzy fabrics, there were, in fact, many. A first layer most likely included a chemise, a bust bodice, a corset that was either boned or corded, a corset cover, pantaloons that may have featured a split crotch for ease of using toilet facilities, a shift, bust bodices, petticoats (one or more), stockings, a skirt and blouse or dress, a belt, shoes, and, if leaving one's domicile, a hat, coat, and gloves. Phew!

But changes were coming, and while fashion trends were already beginning to adapt and adopt such influences as Oriental silks and bold patterns, and Russian tunics and turbans, the events playing out in trench warfare pushed fashions even further.

Field said, "Women went to work, and you can't wear layers and long skirts in a factory." She also pointed out that many types of fabric were needed for the war effort. An interesting development in how clothing was fastened to the body was also explored.

Field explained that early clothing featured buttons and ribbons primarily placed along the back of a garment, not the front. She said that it was nearly impossible for a lady to dress herself, given the closures were all placed along the spine. When nurses' uniforms were modified by placing closures in the front, "It became a trend," Field said. Also changing were the embellishments fashion had included. "Military-style became a fashion trend; less lace, less beading [and] darker colors became more acceptable."

Field said that mass production of day-to-day wear began about this time, "based on mass production of military clothing." And, "Women didn't want to go back to layers," she shared.

In the 1920s, a pandemic and war-weary world wanted to enjoy a freedom of movement that included everything from music to fashion. Gone by then were the tailored, form-fitting shapes of the Edwardian age. "The silhouette flattened; that made elaborate textiles with heavy beading or lame or exciting prints the center of attention in the gowns, rather than the tailoring. This meant dresses were made more simply via rectangular shapes."

Commenting on the differences between clothing worn by men versus women during the 19th century, Field said men were unencumbered with layers of fabric and, moreover, "Men in mourning only had to wear a black armband for three months.… Women had to wear black clothing for three years!"

It's the slices of social history that spice a Field presentation.

As time went on between 1917 and 1920, waistlines dropped, and hemlines rose. Long skirts no longer hobbled a woman's stride. After all, the suffragettes were on the march.

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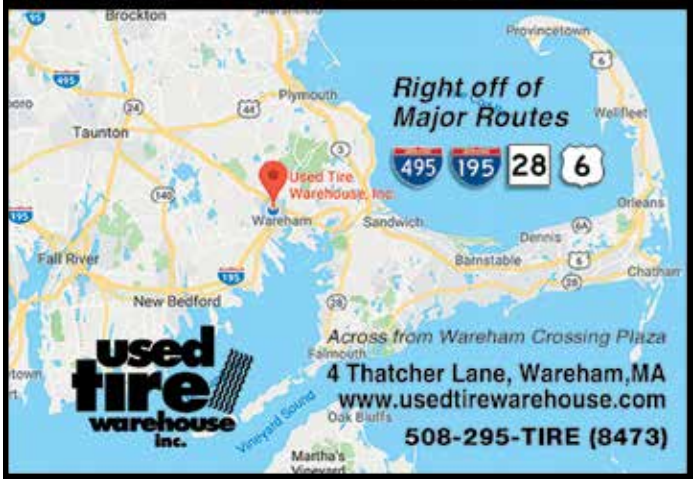
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Cultural and social ideas were expanding. "During the aftermath of the war, people were disillusioned; the result of war's brutality was very evident," Field stated. The door was opened to new design concepts— enter cubism. "No fashion concept stands alone. It draws on a variety of style influences, not the least of which is war," she concluded.

To watch the full presentation, visit vimeo.com/orctvcommunity.

FY22 Budget Process Underway

Marion Board of Selectmen

By Mick Colageo

Marion Finance Director Judy Mooney and Town Administrator Jay McGrail gave the Board of Selectmen an overview of the town's budget for Fiscal Year 2022 during the February 2 selectmen's meeting via Zoom.

McGrail said he asked the department heads in December to present level-services budgets with additional requests made separately and reported that no requests were made for additional staff. McGrail said Marion is starting to see the COVID-19 pandemic's effects on revenues for FY21 and referenced recent furloughs at the Senior Center.

Projected growth for FY22 is 3.55 percent, and the total town increase without schools is 2.3 percent, leaving McGrail confident that each department has done a solid job responding to the request.

Marion has draft numbers from ORR Superintendent of Schools Mike Nelson, but those figures will not be ratified until mid-March. Given Marion's constraints, McGrail and Mooney met with the ORR administration, and McGrail said he hopes to see a new number from them.

Estimated total General Fund revenues for FY22 are projected to be $25,474,945, up from $24,772,528 in FY21. Marion's FY22 level services budget is currently set at $25,617,604.

During a 4:15 pm appointment, Paul Naiman of the Capital Improvements Planning Committee summarized the CIPC's methodology and made some observations as a prelude to McGrail and Mooney's presentation of Marion's FY22 Capital Budget.

The CIPC, explained Naiman, assists Marion's departments in developing capital plans and 10-year projected capital plans. Items that qualify for consideration are those having five years or more of impact with a cost of at least $10,000. "We also try to visit town sites and see how money is being spent," he said, referencing visits this year to the Town House and a meeting with the Old Rochester Regional School District's new administration. "A lot came out of it, and we hope to do that again.... I hope this will prevent the track rehabilitation project getting approved by just our town and not even appearing on other towns' warrants."

The CIPC typically meets with department heads in the fall to collect information, and its members rate a department's projects on a 1-10 scale by considering several factors: need, public safety, maintenance cost, funding source, its effect on the tax rate or fees, and its useful life span. The CIPC creates and averages scores and establishes



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a ranking of items to share with those departments, the Finance Committee, and the Board of Selectmen.

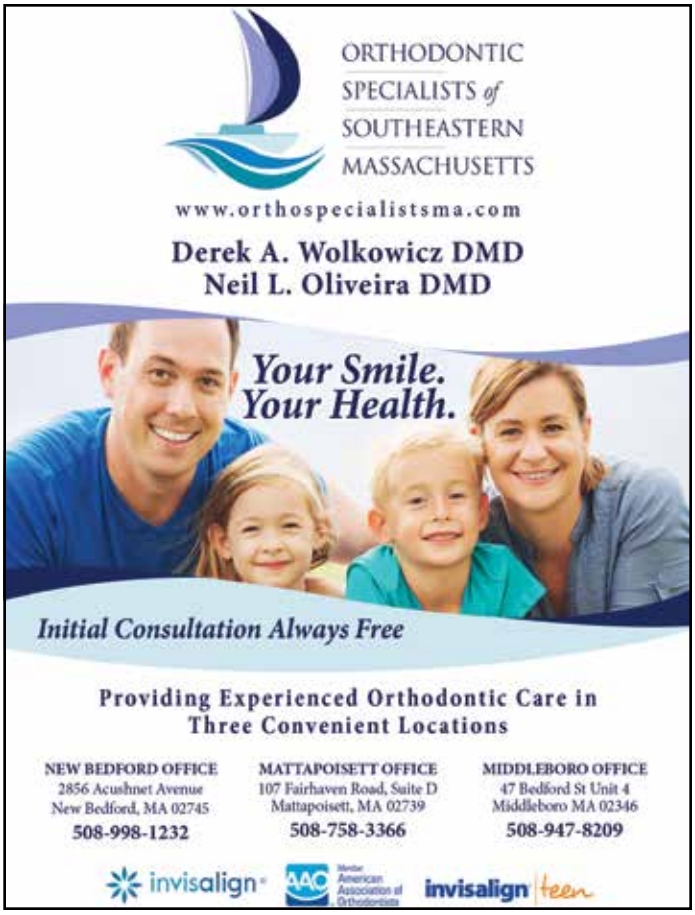
Marion's share of ORR's outdoor track project is $105,000 and is among seven school-related projects on the CIPC's list. Four are projects related to Sippican School, and two are ORR. There are also five DPW projects, bringing Marion's total capital projects for FY22 to $1,4 million. The next steps will include a review by Mooney, McGrail, FinCom, and the selectmen, and the process lands some items on the warrant for Town Meeting.

Mooney and Selectman John Waterman agreed that it would take a year to assess the financial impact of the town running the Benson Brook transfer station. "We're not looking to make money; we're looking to break even. But in a year, the cost could go up if we need it to cover costs," said Waterman. Marion has provided 1,000 stickers to Rochester, most of which McGrail expects will be purchased.

A negative trend exists in public school enrollment that began before the COVID-19 pandemic.

ORR enrollment has dropped 50 students for all three towns (154 total), and Sippican School is down 41 students from last year, but Mooney said Marion saw 38 fewer students enrolled in public schools for the two academic years prior. "We are concerned about it; it's not just this one year," she said. In the two prior school years, Sippican enrollment decreased by eight and 13 students.

"We need to form a committee to look at enrollments because schools are a fixed cost. It may be one-offs for this year, but it got my attention," said Waterman.





Water Enterprise expenses will go down a small amount, but sewer is increasing. Mooney said that the town is looking to subsidize the Sewer Enterprise increase with free cash.

McGrail reported no new debt.

In his Town Administrator's Report, McGrail issued a Friday, February 12, deadline to submit articles for the 2021 Annual Town Meeting warrant.

McGrail was pleased to report that Marion was allocated 100 doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and will distribute to Phase 2 citizens ages 85 and over. "We started at age 101 and worked our way backward. We offered the shot to every Marion resident at age 85 plus," he said. The town called every eligible citizen using a census data list and assisted in the sign-up process as was necessary. Board of Health member Dot Brown made many of the calls herself, working through the weekend long.

"When we look back at this whole episode a number of years from now, it'll be some of the most important work we've ever done," said McGrail, crediting respective Police and Fire Chiefs Richard Nighelli and Brian Jackvony for their forward-thinking and lauded the efforts of Public Health Nurse Lori Desmarais.

Friday's COVID-19 clinic is by reservation only with no walk-ups. McGrail is hoping with the 100-dose allotment per week that the town can vaccinate citizens ages 75+ over the next two weeks.

For more information, call the town's COVID-19 hotline at 508-748-3509.

The 4:35 pm appointment scheduled with Heron Cove developer Ken Steen did not take place. McGrail reported ongoing negotiations with Steen with notice that he will appear on a future agenda. "We have a game plan," said McGrail.

In other business, the selectmen discussed and voted to approve the Massachusetts Historical Commission 2021 Survey and Planning grant application.

They entered an executive session to consider the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property and did not return to public session.

The next meeting of the Marion Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, at 4:00 pm.

Town Approves Steen's Water Request

Rochester Board of Selectmen

By Mick Colageo

Just when Fred Underhill felt as though Rochester's Water Commission was being left out of an important water-related decision, Rochester Board of Selectmen member Woody Hartley assured him that the opposite was the case. "I was hoping you would open this as a meeting and vote on this as Water Commissioners," said Hartley.

The exchange came deep in the February 1 meeting of the Rochester Board of Selectmen, but both bodies eventually voted in favor of increasing the water allocation for Ken Steen's 40R development at the junction of Route 28 and County Road to 47,500 gallons per day.

The decision did not come easily for the Water Commission, which had just approved an increase from 45,000 to 46,000. Steen had requested 50,000 on that occasion and 47,500 on this occasion, the latter request to meet a threshold needed to secure financing.

Water Commissioner Michael Conway asked for the basis for the request to 47,500 and was not satisfied with a bank's requirements as a valid reason. "Until we nail down as to what the reason is he really needs this water, I'd like to put this on hold," he said.

Town Administrator Suzanne Szyndlar explained that, when seeking financing, Steen's approval depended on having sufficient utilities in place for the full range of his development, including the seven commercial sites. The bulk of the usage is based on 208 apartment units and community facilities.

"We all understand we want this project to go ahead,"





said Hartley. "We have the water. [Steen] told us in writing how much they need. Are we really going to hold up this project for the 1,500 gallons they need?"

Town Counsel Blair Bailey supported Hartley's position in that the lending bank can legitimately request approved utility connections in proportion to the development's size.

Selectman Brad Morse pointed out that, with the board's approval, Rochester would still be under its 51,000 gallon-per-day allotment from the Town of Wareham and made a motion that the Board of Selectmen approve Steen's 47,500 gallon-per-day request. Morse noted that the Board of Selectmen needed to approve it in order for the Planning Board to render a final decision to approve the project.

At the same time, it was deliberated whether Rochester should take up Wareham on its standing invitation to increase its overall allotment per the arrangement between the towns. Hartley pushed for a 20,000 gallon-per-day increase to provide Rochester a cushion. Morse agreed but said he first wishes to discuss the matter with Wareham's water officials because there is an interim superintendent at present.

Rochester Water Commissioner Rick Charon saw merit in both actions— for Rochester and Steen— and did not hesitate to make a motion that the Water Commissioners approve a 47,500 gallons-per-day allocation for Steen's development. Conway was still reluctant but ultimately agreed that the project should not be stalled over 1,500 gallons of water and seconded Charon's motion. Underhill was satisfied, saying, "This (vote) eliminates confusion if

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Wareham has two different amounts from elected boards in Rochester."

With that, the Water Commissioners left the meeting, and the Board of Selectmen took its own vote to approve Steen's request for 47,500 gallons per day.

In her Town Administrator's Report, Szyndlar told the selectmen that their budget packets were ready to pick up and that most of the budgets had come in except the Old Rochester Regional School District and the Board of Assessors' budgets. Szyndlar said she would go over the budget with the Finance Committee.

Szyndlar said the governor's proposals are expected to result in a 1.37-percent increase overall, but it is still early in the budget process. "It's going to be a tight year," she said.

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With Proposition 2 1/2 and estimated local receipts, she said, "There's not going to be a lot of wiggle room there."

The selectmen approved Szyndlar's recommendation of a 1:00 pm Friday, March 5, deadline to submit articles for the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Marion's Benson Brook Transfer Station is now open to Rochester residents on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Szyndlar received ORCTV's contract draft and sent it to Bailey and will send it to the selectmen.

Plymouth County Commissioner Sandra Wright delivered Rochester's second CARES Act reimbursement check in the amount of $18,765, which goes straight to the Old Colony Regional School District as Rochester's share for Old Colony's reimbursement funds related to COVID-19.

Morse and Szyndlar attended the Veteran's Council on January 28 and learned that Veterans Agent Barry Denham plans to retire in May.

Chairman Paul Ciaburri reported attending a Zoom meeting with Health Director Karen Walega and Health Nurse Connie Dolan, enabling Rochester to function as a dispensing center for a COVID-19 vaccine should it become available. Ciaburri said there is no solid direction as of yet. "They're talking about a mass inoculation center in New Bedford," he said, noting a "lot of moving parts." Szyndlar relayed that Walega said every town could get 100 vaccines per week, but the vaccines are fragile in travel, and it remains a better option to seek a vaccination through your local pharmacy or at an official government distribution site.

In other business, the selectmen voted to approve and sign the new three-year contract for Chief of Police Robert Small effective July 1, 2021. "I want to thank the [Board of Selectmen] and Suzanne for making it quick and painless. It's nice to have it go so smoothly," said Small, who has been Rochester's police chief since September 15, 2018. Bailey said there had been meetings with Small and Szyndlar to discuss the chief's goals and achievement timetable, and that the information would be added to his performance review and evaluation.

The selectmen voted to accept a SEMASS PILOT payment for December 2020 in the amount of $364,913. They also approved ORR Schools Facilities Manager Gene Jones' declaration of surplus in the case of a walk-in cooler freezer that can now be sold as surplus goods, and they voted to

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appoint Steven Harding, a lifelong Rochester resident and part-time farmer, to the town's Agricultural Commission.

Szyndlar reported 18 complaints were filed with Verizon, three relating to equipment and 15 service interruptions. "Everything was resolved within a short period of time," she said.

Hartley attended three workshops and came away particularly impressed by the potential for grant funding of public safety projects through SRPEDD. He plans to talk soon with Planning Board Chairman Arnie Johnson about Rochester's Master Plan. He also was happy to note that the Agricultural Commission now has six members.

Morse reminded veterans to reach out to the Veteran's Council, saying, "They're really doing great things."

The next meeting of the Rochester Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, February 15, at 6:00 pm.

FinCom Expands Planning Process

Mattapoisett Finance Committee

By Marilou Newell

Even household budgets require data to be effective in managing expenses and how those expenses will be funded. Now consider the monumental task of building a budget for a town, any town, with its various cost centers, revenue streams, and, of course, contingency for the unexpected. Data is king in drilling down and in projecting future financial needs.

On January 28, the Mattapoisett Finance Committee, chaired by Pat Donoghue, came together remotely for its first in a long series of meetings, which will find the committee using new and or updated data provided by Town Administrator Mike Lorenco. With his background in finance, budget processes are in his wheelhouse.

After providing an overview and introduction of new members Tom Kelly and former Selectman Tyler Macallister, Lorenco detailed his planning strategy for FY22, saying of the Capital Planning process: "The updated spreadsheet helps to explain how we are spending money in a more detailed fashion."

Donoghue responded, saying, "We want to be better prepared than we have been in the past.… I'm happy to see this." One area that was briefly discussed was any cost savings from insurance carriers due to COVID-19. "I'm on the lookout for any temporary reductions.… Maybe sock those savings away," she said.

Another topic near and dear to Donoghue's financial planning heart are school budgets. "The way we've been balancing the budget is based on lower enrollments and dropping teachers based on decreasing enrollment.… If they don't reduce a teacher, we can't meet contractual agreements, not at 2.5 percent." She said that the per-pupil cost for grades K-6 was "off the charts."

Lorenco said one area to look at that might help to improve the ORR District's School Choice program would be to invite the town of Acushnet to use a negotiated rate. He said a rate of $9,000 per year per student still does not cover the real costs associated with educating that child, but it's better than the $5,000 the state now allows, he said.



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In a follow-up, Lorenco said that schools represent more than 50 percent of the overall town budget. To better understand the impact that funding schools has on the community, he has provided both the School and the Finance Committees with data covering enrollment trends for the past 15 years and per-pupil expenses. He offered website links that provide better insight into relevant school data located at mass.gov/municipal-databank-data-analytics-including-cherry-sheets, as well as profiles.doe.mass.edu/state_report/.

For the town's many departments, Lorenco said he has provided departmental comparisons, actuals, and trends, including those reported by other cities and towns, to help the Finance Committee through the analysis process. He also said he has advised department heads that level-funding, except for employment contracts, will be necessary for FY22.

Another analysis and projection tool Lorenco has modified is the 10-year Capital Planning spreadsheet. He said that added to that analytic tool is not only the addition of building maintenance needs, roadway culvert design, and engineering and other heretofore-missing expense pieces, but also a column that directs how each line item will be funded, either by free cash, through debt, or grants.

And let's not forget new revenue sources. Lorenco shared his screen, which showed how much new revenue the town could have collected with a meals tax. Between 2012 and 2020, the town missed out on an estimated $800,000 in revenue. He believes that by establishing a 75-cent tax per $100 spent, the town could bring in new and much-needed money. "It spreads the cost of the town's expenses over a larger group, not just the residents," he explained. He said that 243 of the Commonwealth's 351 communities now have a local meals tax.

Other potential revenue sources Lorenco brought to light include a short-term rental tax of 3 percent, a local room tax of up to 6 percent for hotels, motels, and bed-and-breakfasts, and the current agreement being drawn up for a solar array at the town landfill. Of the array, Lorenco said that this project would "bring in multiple revenue sources, including a PILOT program." Of the total package of revenue for this project alone, he said, "Annually, it could be a seven-figure sum; it's much needed."

The Wanderer reached out to Capital Planning Chairman Chuck McCullough for his takeaways regarding the new format and process for capturing and funding capital needs.

"Things are more detailed, more informative, more disciplined," McCullough began. "We'll include how each item will be funded, what revenue source." He explained that in the past, free cash, enterprise funds, or grants were not specified for expenses at the front end and that having that information at the beginning of project evaluation "will make things a lot cleaner." McCullough also said that Lorenco is providing department heads with much-needed data, giving those cost centers a more detailed approach to capital requests and budgets. He used the example of the new fire station, saying that for at least 15 years, the project was carried on the Capital Plan spreadsheet at $5 million, a construction project he says is now at $10 million.

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The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Finance Committee is scheduled for Thursday, February 4, at 4:00 pm.

Tabor Waiting on Town Officials

Marion Planning Board

By Mick Colageo

Before the Marion Planning Board can get down to the nitty-gritty of voting to green-light Tabor Academy's proposed Campus Center on the site of the present Hayden Library at 85 Spring Street, feedback is needed from town officials such as Chief of Police Richard Nighelli and Building Commissioner Scott Shippey.

Once again, Planning Board Vice Chairman Andrew Daniel presided in the absence of Chairman Will Saltonstall, who is recusing himself from the process as the lead architect for the Campus Center. It is an odd juxtaposition for the members, who work with Saltonstall every other week to deliberate many cases; however, this one is the clearinghouse for a project his company is designing.

Any sense of awkwardness with the task has not been apparent, as members once again picked at the plans for the 22,750 square-foot academic building that would replace the one-floor library with a modern, two-floor facility and surrounding infrastructure. This time, they did so with the added benefit of peer review.

On February 1, Bob Field of Field Engineering and Tristan deBarros of Saltonstall Architects fielded questions from the Planning Board in a continued public hearing for the major site plan review. Peer-review consultant Joe Connell of SITEC was present at the Zoom meeting to follow up on matters that revised plans did not specifically address.

"We believe we adequately addressed their comments and concerns," said Field, adding he would be happy to discuss any focus points.

Planning Board member Eileen Marum referenced a recent regional energy meeting she attended that recommended that 10 percent of parking spaces have electric vehicle charging stations and that 60 percent have pre-installed 40 amp circuits and standby generators. She suggested the Campus Center be built ahead of the curve as vehicles trend toward electric power. "I'm thinking further out so you won't have to be digging up parking lots and putting these in retroactively," she said.

Planning Board member Joe Rocha confirmed that the

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sale of gas-powered vehicles in Massachusetts is scheduled to become illegal by 2030, but he also suggested that many vehicles powered by fossil fuels will remain on the road. Planning Board member Norm Hills agreed.

Field said, "We could put conduit in place for future wiring," adding that he intends to discuss the matter with his team. "We'll see what we can do on that issue."

Board member Christopher Collings, who did not see eye to eye with Field or deBarros on Spring Street traffic issues, said, "I love what Eileen is talking about, I like the idea of being functional.... Let's try to dovetail this with the town's (outlook)."

Daniel pumped the brakes. "I have a hard time telling people to do something that may or may not come to fruition in 20 years." Marum insisted that "it's coming," albeit while qualifying her remarks as a suggestion.

"No question, electric cars are going to be part of the future," said Hills, noting his belief that gas-powered vehicles will not be going away any time soon. "I think Mr. Field's comment about investigating how to have the stuff installed is the most important part."

Citing consistency, Collings compared Marum's suggestion to requests that the Planning Board routinely makes in asking Route 6 properties to consider the corridor study. "I think it's consistent to ask these kinds of properties to add the infrastructure," he said.

Citing Marion Bylaw 230-6.5 "Off-Street Parking and Loading" under Section D "Parking Lot Design," Marum



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pointed out that parking areas with at least 15 spaces are required to accommodate one bicycle for every three parking spaces. Field said bike racks would be added with work by the landscape architect.

The number of spaces became a matter of discussion after Connell pointed out that the town's parking requirement is calculated by occupancy and number of employees. No number is spelled out in the design plans. Connell said the prescribed parking is one space per four occupants for schools plus one for every two employees.

Field explained that a memo was submitted prior to the Planning Board's last meeting to address parking because the building is not dedicated to a single use on a single lot but is part of a larger campus. Parking is not strictly for the building but serves a number of buildings and needs of the campus. DeBarros added that only a handful of employees will be in the building and that "everyone else in the building is transient in nature."

Daniel said that if there is an actual number of occupancy, the board should know what it is.

Other points of discussion included fire suppression. Field explained to Daniel that the fire hydrants are to be located on the side opposite the proposed dumpster location. The hydrants did not appear on the drawings, Field said, because they can be coordinated at the building permit stage.

While it was learned in a prior meeting that the Campus Center would be 34 feet, 11 inches in ridge height to the average grade along Spring Street, Hayden is at its highest point, 29 feet. For points of comparison, Cornelia Hall girls' dorm is 31 feet, 7 inches high, and Matsumura House boys dorm 30 feet. The maximum height allowed in Marion is 35 feet.

Speaking of height, one of Connell's more intriguing discrepancies in the Campus Center design is the dark-sky requirement. Field said his understanding is the light fixtures "don't quite meet Dark Sky (certification)," but the fixtures proposed match those that have been approved for Tabor in past projects. Likewise, deBarros said that the proposed LED fixtures spread all the beam into the parking lot and not toward the street or the neighbors.

Connell's last suggestion found traction, as Field indicated the 20-foot passageway between the northern and southern parking bays would be widened.

The public hearing was continued to Tuesday, February 16, at 7:05 pm.

In other business, the board voted to support the Historical Commission's application to seek state funding for its town-wide survey. The board also voted to pay a SRPEDD invoice dated January 12 for $262.06.

The next meeting of the Marion Planning Board is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, at 7:00 pm.

Site Visit Set for Solar Array

Rochester Conservation Commission

By Mick Colageo

Eric Las of Beals and Thomas acknowledged that the solar array proposed by Cushman Road Solar LLC along Cushman Road faces a lengthy vetting process with the



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Rochester Planning Board. Still, he feels he is nearing the finish line of the Conservation Commission's jurisdictional involvement pending a site visit plan that revealed its own complications during the continued hearing with the Rochester ConCom on February 2.

The Notice of Intent proposing a 3.9-megawatt solar array with associated site work and stormwater management on property owned by Trustee Lisa Holden was the subject of response to the town's peer review for the work planned within the 100-foot buffer zone, along with tree clearing and stormwater outfalls.

Las addressed items and answered questions and told the commission that he notified the Town of Acushnet since the project comes close to the town line with Rochester but

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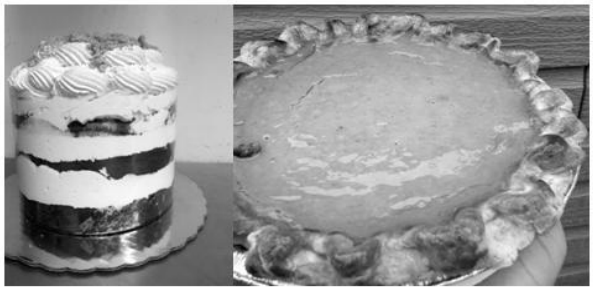
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does not cross. He also publicly thanked the peer-review consultant, Sandwich-based Horsley Witten Group, for its swift turnaround.

Conservation Agent Laurell Farinon called Horsley Witten Group's response "a clean letter," saying that most issues have been dealt with and minor points could be conditioned. Her only preliminary question was whether it would be prudent to schedule a site visit right away, given the potential design changes that could result from the Planning Board's scrutiny.

Las said the project was ready for a site visit, but it took substantial discussion regarding property access to get the commission to a confident position regarding the abutting horse farm before it was scheduled for Saturday, February 6, at 9:00 am.

Joe Harrison of Sunrays told Farinon that the access road has not yet been constructed, but Farinon said the inconvenience of parking and walking 3,000 feet was not at issue.

"It's not about the walk; it's about tromping through someone's business," she said. "The elephant in the room is we've got a kind of dispute going on about the right of way. I just don't want to set up the members in an uncomfortable situation on a Saturday or Sunday morning."

An active horse farm borders the site where customers board horses, and lessons are conducted.

Harrison said he would notify abutters and assured the commission that walking along the "valid right of way should not be a problem if we give them notice."

ConCom member Daniel Gagne recused himself from the hearing, which was continued to March 16.

Farinon presented on behalf of applicants Bruce and Laura Willett, 245 Hartley Road, because that project engineer, Darren Michaelis, could not attend the meeting. She described the project as complete, a septic upgrade with two tanks and a leaching area within 50 feet of a cranberry bog behind the house. At Farinon's recommendation, ConCom issued a Certificate of Compliance.

Attorney Steve Meltzer requested an extension on behalf of a Notice of Intent filed by Kings Highway Concrete Production Facility. Summarizing a history of the case that dates back to 2010, Meltzer told ConCom the applicant's permit expires on March 22, 2021. Farinon said ConCom would treat the requested extension as a new filing and

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recommended a continuance to set up a site visit. The case was continued to March 2.

An NOI filed by Ryan Correia of 91 Sarah Sherman Road for the proposed construction of a single-family home on Mendell Road was continued to March 2.

Under old business, Bill Madden of G.A.F. Engineering provided an update on the status of the Makepeace Enforcement Order. Madden said the focus has been on research and collecting data, that the applicant has hired a wetlands consultant, and has flown a drone to delineate the disturbed areas.

"I think we're making reasonably good progress on things, given what we're tasked to do," said Madden, who said he is trying to obtain a document for resource area boundaries as they existed before the activities that took place resulting in the enforcement order. "Once we get that, then we'll be in a much better position to set a plan for mitigation and restoration that the order calls for."

Madden will appear on February 16, at which time he expects he will be able to plan for ConCom to make a site visit.

Under new business, Old Middleboro Road requested a change to a relocated ancient way. ConCom members agreed that more explanation is necessary. The case was continued to February 16.

The next meeting of the Rochester Conservation Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, at 7:00 pm.

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Ketchel Reports on Neck Resiliency Study

Mattapoisett Planning Board

By Marilou Newell

During the February 1 meeting of the Mattapoisett Planning Board, board member Nathan Ketchel reported on the Mattapoisett Neck Road Resiliency Project. This study program is being funded by a grant the town received from the state's Coastal Zone Management division of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The town received $74,981 in grant monies with a 25 percent match.

Ketchel said the environmental engineering firm Fuss and O'Neil, along with consultants from the Woods Hole Group, convened a meeting on January 27 and included Highway Surveyor Barry Denham. Selectman Jordan Collyer and Town Administrator Mike Lorenco were also in attendance.

The environmental team detailed the scope of their work, which already has included a study of the effectiveness of the existing culverts along Mattapoisett Neck Road to flush in and out of tidal streams and marshlands that abut the roadway in critical low-lying areas. The study will also model sea-level rise created by ice-sheet melting and associated flooding events as far out as a "100-year flood," Ketchel said. Another aspect of the program will be modeling improvements to the roadway, including but not limited to short raised spans.

In a follow-up, Collyer said, "It's a multi-faceted project that will study tidal activity and the ability of both culverts to handle the flow." He said that the culvert at Molly's Cove was especially problematic, showing serious signs of aging. "That's part of the reason the CZM grant was awarded," he said, while also noting that the roadway serving the residential community needs to be protected.

Ketchel reported that data collection will be ongoing and that the next meeting of this environmental study group is scheduled for March 24, with public hearings following in April.

Lorenco said that more grants will be needed to fund any roadway improvements and culvert repairs but that these first steps were critical in understanding the full scope of issues facing Mattapoisett Neck. He also noted that there are other areas in town that need similar in-depth evaluation, adding, "By the Neck going first, the new modeling protocol can be applied to other areas in town.… Mattapoisett has 16 miles of shoreline."

The Planning Board also gave the green light to a solar bylaw draft primarily prepared by Planning Board member Janice Robbins. She commented that in July 2021, changes made to the state regulations put a great deal of undeveloped land out of the running for large commercial solar arrays. "It's disqualified the buying-out of conservation restrictions and using agricultural lands under Chapter 61A," she said. In a follow-up, Robbins further explained that the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources issues the guidelines on the types of land that may be developed for solar arrays under a "land siting" statute. She went on to say that the solar arrays that have come before the Planning Board more recently were all grandfathered applications. "Those locations wouldn't meet the current regulations."

During her report to the board, Robbins also said that the governor had changed the requirement from a two-thirds majority to a simple majority when bylaw changes or additions come before voters in town meetings.

Those comments prompted engineer Douglas Schneider to say that if one looked at the latest state maps, one would find very little land suitable for any kind of development. Robbins concurred with that assessment. Schneider also questioned using the state regulations and mapping to write a local bylaw. "When you're tying yourself to state maps, you've got to be specific [as to] what maps," he said. Robbins confirmed that, as state maps change, so, too, would local bylaws that utilize that mapping. She also reminded all that the town currently only has site-plan review for solar-array construction.

The board members were pleased with the draft and targeted April 5 to schedule a public hearing on the bylaw. If sentiment is positive, the next step would be including the solar bylaw in the Annual Spring Town Meeting Warrant.

Planning Board Chairman Tom Tucker reminded the board that the Master Plan Committee's next meeting would be on February 3.

Planning Board member Karen Field reported on her attendance at the Community Preservation Committee meeting on January 22. At that time, the CPC members agreed in principle with a grant filed by the Christian Church and Mattapoisett Museum for renovations to the front door and entranceway. The committee sought and received a legal

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interpretation that would allow the group to consider the application, absent consideration of any religious affiliation. The church leases the building space to the museum in an agreement that gives the museum use of the former Baptist Church structure for nearly 100 years. The legal opinion noted that, given the primary use of the structure as a museum, there was no conflict with the separation of church and state.

All other matters before the Planning Board were continued at the request of the applicants, and several also received filing extensions. Those cases were: Randall Lane, LLC for a large commercial solar array planned off Randall Lane, continued until March 1 with an April 5 extension date; Park Lane subdivision Form C, Andre Rieksts, Scott Atkinson, Margo Atkinson, continued until March 1 with an April 5 extension date; Eric Medeiros, Modification to Form C Definitive Subdivision, Selha Way, continued to March 1; 18 Crystal Springs Road, Raymond Hanks, Form A not Required, continued to March 1; and 3 Crystal Springs Road, Ryan Correia, Form A not required, continued to March 15.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Planning Board is scheduled for Monday, March 1, at 7:00 pm.

ZBA Approves Oakdale Avenue Decision

Marion Zoning Board of Appeals

By Mick Colageo

Jim Ryba presided as chair in the absence of Christina Frangos, as the Marion Zoning Board of Appeals met briefly on January 28 to address two cases with members Margie

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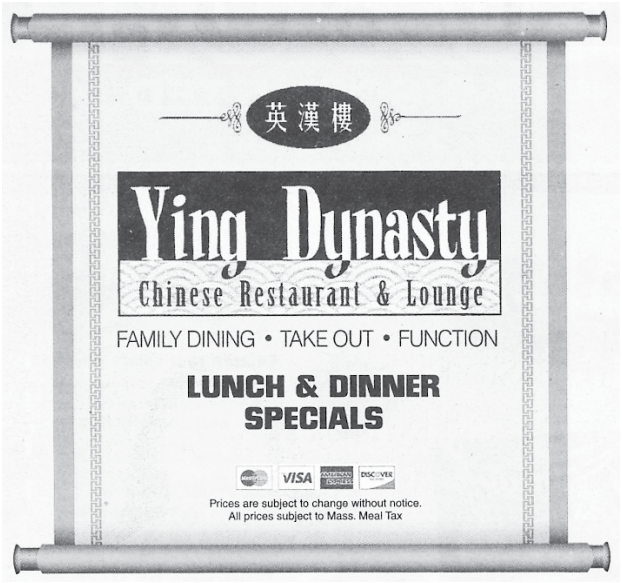
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The ZBA put a bow on Case No. 782, reopening the case to add correspondence received last week. The members voted to endorse a four-page decision written by Town Counsel Barbara Huggins-Carbone that extends Oakdale Avenue so that legally divided properties can access it from 61 and 63 Oakdale Avenue in keeping with a Special Permit that was awarded to the estate of Joan E. Botelho. The ZBA's approval paves the way for the Town of Marion to recover approximately $40,000 in owed property taxes.

In Case No. 775, Heron Cove developer Ken Steen requested a continuance of the public hearing for his proposed 40B housing project to Thursday, February 25, at 6:30 pm.

Administrative assistant Ann Marie Tobia confirmed on February 2 that Steen's attorney, Mark Bobrowski, did not file the paperwork for a new case by February 1. Without an adequate window for legal advertising, the revised Heron Cove application will necessarily seek another continuance when the ZBA next meets on Thursday, February 25.

ZBA Approves Handicap-Accessible Two-Family Addition

Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals

By Jean Perry

The Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals on January 28 approved a Special Permit to convert the single-family house at 111 County Road into a multi-family, along with a Variance to allow the conversion on a non-conforming lot containing an area of 48,350 square feet.

The board lauded property owners Jeremy and Kristin Saccone for coming forth with "all their cards on the table," so to speak when they combined two essentially separate projects into one so the board could consider the plan in its entirety in transparency.

The Saccones, who have owned their property for 18 years, want to construct an 885 square-foot handicap-accessible apartment for Mr. Saccones' parents and also construct a two-car garage with a second-floor recreation room for the primary residents' sole use.

Mr. Saccone's mother has a debilitative health condition and now requires a wheelchair full-time, and the home she shares with her husband in Bridgewater has three-stories and is no longer accessible to her.

Joshua Bows of Merrill Engineers and Land Surveyors explained how the triangular-shaped lot limits the Saccones' options in building the unit and explained the hardship involved. Proving a hardship is a requirement to receive a variance.

"It's very difficult to find a handicap-accessible small home or apartment," said Bows., [and] also provide a place for their parents to live that's comfortable and accessible and meets their needs.

"We've designed a home … that meets the needs of Jeremy's parents … and with that, we've also added a garage addition with a room above the garage that would be used by the applicants…. We've done everything we can to meet the [bylaw] requirements."

ZBA Chairman David Arancio was concerned about

"wants versus needs" in the proposed size of the new unit, but as Bows explained, the apartment has to be larger for a wheelchair to be able to maneuver about the floor area. Doors must be wider, closets as well, and the bathroom must also be more oversized. Adequate floor space to move about is a necessity, he said. Furthermore, Mr. Saccone's parents are downsizing from a larger three-story home. Still, Arancio believed the plan could have been for a smaller unit.

"I'm sure that you're correct [that it] could be smaller," said Bows. "However, I think that it's the desire for the convenience and just the challenges of being in a wheelchair."

"I completely understand the hardships there," said Arancio. "I'm just trying to navigate to be consistent and fair…. That's a concern of mine, obviously."

Bows asked the ZBA to consider that the new addition would be "no more adverse to neighbors or the town than what currently exists," but ZBA member Richard Cutler pointed out that, if it were approved, "A two-family is two-family. If someone buys the house later on," Cutler said, there would still be an apartment. "So, not having any more effect on the town is negated — it's still two units, it doesn't matter. It's still not going to go away."

ZBA member Davis Sullivan said combining the two plans into one is an excellent way to address it. "It makes sense from a construction standpoint what they're trying to do, so I can understand the approach."

"This looks real good to me," said ZBA member Donald Spirlet. "They went through a lot of effort (not to exceed setbacks). It's a good idea to [combine the two projects]. You could do an addition at one point and then the second addition later, which would be within the 30 percent. It makes more sense just to do it all at once."

As for the "want versus need," said Spirlet, "in this case, it's more of a need. I don't know what it's like to get around in a wheelchair, but I would think that a bigger unit must be needed for a wheelchair."

The discussion continued as Arancio's focused on the unit exceeding 30 percent of the existing habitable floor area. Board members further explained that if the Saccones went ahead with just an addition, the proposed conversion would subsequently meet the 30 percent of that increased floor area.

As Cutler explained, the ZBA has advised past applicants to show the board their entire plan rather than







apply for one thing, then return for something else later on. Here, the applicant was laying all the cards on the table, "so I applaud them for that."

"We tried to put all the cards on the table," said Bows. "We've done what we can to meet the 30 percent and all the other requirements. … I just hope you consider the situation we're in when you consider the application."

No abutters appeared to support or oppose the application.

The vote to approve was unanimous, 5-0.

Later during the meeting, the board approved two setback variances for Mathew Dessert on behalf of property owner Kevin Bennett, 9 County Road, to allow a 10-foot by 12-foot attached addition (mudroom) with an attached covered deck and a wheelchair ramp (exempt from the variance).

In other business, the variance application for Katherine Hartley, 0 Pine Street, to construct a single-family house with a reduced frontage of 16.64 feet instead of the required 225 feet was withdrawn without prejudice.

The next meeting of the Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on February 11 at 7:00 pm.

Shoreline Home Project Approved

Marion Conservation Commission

By Mick Colageo

In its fourth continuation, the public hearing for Carmine and Beth Martignetti's Notice of Intent for shoreline improvements at 71 Moorings Road reached a positive conclusion during the January 27 meeting of the Marion Conservation Commission.

Dave Davignon from Schneider, Davignon & Leone, who presented on behalf of the applicant, made further revisions in response to requests made during the commission's last meeting held two weeks earlier. The changes will be accompanied by concrete markers that will tell maintenance crews that they are not to mow in the marked areas.

No further questions from the commissions signaled it was time to close the public hearing, and the members revisited the matter later in the meeting to vote the Martignetti's an Order of Conditions. They approved the NOI with special conditions, including a permanent, split-rail-type fence and permanent concrete marker a minimum of 3 inches above grade.

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In other business, what began as a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by 418 Point Road Trust was replaced by an NOI for repairs and to replace a portion of a pile-support system of the boardwalk constructed there around 2009. The applicant was represented by Davignon, who explained modifications to satisfy issues raised at the last ConCom meeting. Public comment was invited without result, and the commission's members ultimately issued an Order of Conditions, including the condition that all work equipment must be removed from the salt marsh daily.

ConCom issued the Marion Lands Trust an amended Order of Conditions to modify a driveway entrance at Wareham Street. Continuing conditions include the driveway must be made of crushed stone.

Tabor Academy was given a Negative 2 Determination of Applicability in its proposed plan to demolish Hayden Library, 85 Spring Street, and construct a new, 22,750 square-foot Campus Center on the site.

ConCom received a complaint about tree cutting at Marion Golf Club. Chairman Shaun Walsh visited the site and discussed the matter with one of the two principals leasing the club. Walsh said he advised them to cease and desist the activity between the two roads "because it may be jurisdictional." He further advised them to hire a wetlands specialist to evaluate that area and any others where they plan to cut any trees. Walsh reported being told they had a forester, but the Conservation Commission had not been notified. Walsh walked the course and identified the areas for the principals where ConCom has jurisdiction.

In other votes, the Town of Marion received a Negative 2 Determination in the RDA filed to replace three fire hydrants at 33 Allen Street, 19 Holmes Street, and 17 Dexter Road.

Bruce Pawelczyk was issued an Order of Conditions to remove decks and walkways and install a proposed 12-foot by 24-foot addition to an existing side deck at 50 West Avenue.

ConCom conducted a site visit after the Town of Marion filed an RDA to install two 100-gallon propane tanks at Pumping Station Road. The conversion from oil was applauded. Facilities Manager Shaun Cormier represented the town. Because the hearing was introduced, it was continued to Wednesday, February 10.

In another new public hearing, Davignon represented Blankenship Trust LLC with its NOI for an inground swimming pool, patio, and retaining wall associated with the reconstruction of a house at 468 Point Road. The case was continued to Wednesday, February 10.

Karen Chacon's RDA to build a ramp on the side of the house at 98 Dexter Road was continued to Wednesday, February 10.

The Michael R. Deland Trust of 1978 was issued a Certificate of Compliance for repairs to a long-standing concrete wall at 498C Point Road.

Walsh told the commission of several Chapter 91 Waterways license applications that have been submitted to the state Department of Environmental Protection for projects that have either been or will be heard by ConCom. Those included: Aucoot Cove Properties LLC at 98 Indian Cove Road; 122 Register Road LLC at 122 Register Road;

Meadow Island Realty Trust at 34 Fraser Way; and at two addresses that will appear on ConCom's next meeting agenda at 47 and 51 East Avenue.

Seeking opportunities to avoid dead space in meetings, ConCom decided to schedule multiple meetings at the same time with notification to interested parties. Walsh also sent out a notice that ConCom will strictly hold to filing deadlines as published at marionma.gov.

The next meeting of the Marion Conservation Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, at 7:00 pm.

Tackling Water-Sewer Problems

Marion Water/Sewer Commissioners

By Mick Colageo

The Town of Marion held its second quarterly meeting of the Water/Sewer Commissioners on January 28. The commissioners are made up of the Board of Selectmen: Randy Parker, Norm Hills, and John Waterman.

Considering the staggering costs the town is facing to repair, replace, upgrade, and update its antiquated water and sewer facilities and infrastructure and the massive implications of the work on the town's financial standing and future, Waterman proposed that the commissioners have a quarterly platform to focus on these matters.

To that end, the commissioners were joined on a January 28 Zoom meeting by several town officials, including Department of Public Works Director David Willett, DPW Engineer Meghan Davis, DPW Office Manager Becky Tilden, Town Administrator Jay McGrail, Assistant Town Administrator Judy Mooney, and Town Planner Gil Hilario.

"We anticipate getting three new wells online this year. I think that's a real good thing for the town," said Willett, delegating to Davis, who reported on five ongoing water-related programs.

Engineering firm Tata & Howard is designing a $50,000 capital project to replace all of Marion's fire hydrants now and in upcoming years. The project is set to go out to bid in early March, with construction to begin mid-April. The first three on the list are at 17 Dexter Road, 361 Front Street, and 639 Front Street. The contractor will supply the hydrants.

The Mill Street water main replacement project is complete. In April, the town will mill and overlay the roadway. The new hydrants are installed and online. The contractor has to remove the existing hydrants. The main trench is in the eastbound lane, so that lane will be milled and overlaid entirely. There are other spots to be repaired on the westbound lane, but that side will not receive a full mill and overlay.

Marion contracted with Tata & Howard to produce a concise reference document noting operating procedures for the Water Department that includes day-to-day operations, reporting, and regulatory compliance. This would come in handy in the event town employees are out, and the town needs to contract out work. This is in the beginning stages, and Davis said the DPW expects an agreement with Tata & Howard in the next week.

In her update on the Mary's Pond well field rehabilitation, Davis reported having requested on the day of the meeting a "project scheduled to complete." The contractor is presently rehabbing the existing structure, working on the interior last week and the exterior this week.

Three new wells have been installed; the existing well field of 25, 2-inch wells has been replaced by three 10 by 16-inch wells that reach down 40 to 50 feet. Mary's Pond well field is permitted for 280,000 gallons per day. "They'll be able to meet that capacity," said Davis.

The new chemical-feed building serving East and West wells is at the 75-percent point in the design phase with the plan to put construction out to bid in April, aiming toward starting construction in May and completion in November. When complete, the new chemical-feed building will treat water from the East and West wells and the Mary's Pond

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On October 26, 2020 we lost our friend and co-founder William Huggins. We will proudly continue the tradition of quality and excellence that he embraced. Our deepest condolences go out to the Huggins family. He will be missed!

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Local Cable Programming

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PUBLIC ACCESS
Comcast Channel 9
Verizon Channel 36

Thursday February 4, 2021
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Seniors on the Move
8:00 AM Health Source
8:30 AM Recovery Fitness
9:00 AM Tae Kwon Do
9:30 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM You and Your Health
10:30 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
11:00 AM The Art of Being Human
11:30 AM Lucy's World of Painting
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:30 PM New England Cooks
1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
1:30 PM The Chundria Show
2:00 PM The Collective Chat
2:30 PM Science 360
3:00 PM The Kamla Show
3:30 PM Sippican Historical Society - Women's Clothing in WWI
4:38 PM Mike Paige Doodle Club
5:00 PM Governor Baker COVID-19 Update
5:33 PM Southcoast Matters TV
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM Money Matters TV
7:00 PM This is America & The World
7:30 PM Registers Report
8:00 PM Recovery Recreation TV
8:30 PM Learning Music with Pat
9:00 PM Gay USA
10:00 PM IA Baseball
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

Friday February 5, 2021
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Seniors on the Move
8:00 AM Health Source
8:30 AM Recovery Fitness
9:00 AM Tae Kwon Do
9:30 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM You and Your Health
10:30 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
11:00 AM Cape Conversation
11:33 AM Learning Music with Pat
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:30 PM New England Cooks
1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
1:30 PM The Chundria Show
2:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
2:30 PM The Art of Being Human
3:00 PM A Conversation With...
3:30 PM The Non-Profit World
4:00 PM Registers Report
4:30 PM Governor Baker COVID-19 Update
5:32 PM Southcoast Matters TV
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM The World Fusion Show
7:00 PM Let's Talk Business
8:00 PM The Kamla Show
8:30 PM Money Matters TV
9:00 PM Gay USA
10:00 PM 4 Deep Sports Talk
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

Saturday February 6, 2021
6:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartoons
9:00 AM Governor Baker COVID-19 Update
10:02 AM Health Source
10:30 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
11:00 AM The Art of Being Human
11:30 AM Learning Music with Pat
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
1:30 PM The Chundria Show
2:00 PM The Collective Chat
2:30 PM Let's Talk Business
3:00 PM Armchair QB
3:30 PM The Chico and Bman Show
4:00 PM In the Toy Box
4:30 PM Governor Baker COVID-19 Update
5:32 PM Southcoast Matters TV
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM The World Fusion Show
7:00 PM A Conversation With...
7:30 PM Money Matters TV
8:00 PM Registers Report
8:30 PM IA Baseball
9:30 PM Gay USA
10:30 PM Two Tones with George Lopes
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

Sunday February 7, 2021
6:00 AM Veterans Voice
7:30 AM Health Source
8:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church
8:30 AM The Art of Being Human
9:00 AM First Congregational Church of Rochester
10:00 AM St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church of Marion
11:00 AM Cape Conversation
11:33 AM Learning Music with Pat
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
1:30 PM The Chundria Show
2:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
2:30 PM Money Matters TV
3:00 PM The Chico and Bman Show
3:30 PM The Kamla Show
4:30 PM Governor Baker COVID-19 Update
5:32 PM Southcoast Matters TV
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM The World Fusion Show
7:00 PM This is America & The World
7:30 PM In the Toy Box
8:00 PM IA Baseball
9:00 PM 4 Deep Sports Talk
10:00 PM Ghost Chronicles
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

Monday February 8, 2021
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Seniors on the Move
8:00 AM Health Talk
8:30 AM Tae Kwon Do
9:00 AM Senior Medicare Patrol Program
9:45 AM Questions & Answers COVID Vaccine
10:32 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
11:00 AM Cape Conversation
11:33 AM The Art of Being Human
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
1:30 PM The Chundria Show
2:00 PM The Collective Chat
2:30 PM Learning Music with Pat
3:00 PM A Cranberry Harvest
3:30 PM Rob Surette SunnySpeak Interview
4:00 PM The Non-Profit World
4:30 PM Governor Baker COVID-19 Update
5:32 PM Southcoast Matters TV
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM Governor Baker - State of the Commonwealth
7:00 PM This is America & The World
8:00 PM Recovery Recreation TV
8:30 PM The Kamla Show
9:00 PM IA Baseball
10:00 PM 4 Deep Sports Talk
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

Tuesday February 9, 2021
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Seniors on the Move
8:00 AM Recovery Fitness
8:30 AM Health Talk
9:00 AM Tae Kwon Do
9:30 AM The Art of Being Human
10:00 AM Rochester COA Senior Medicare Patrol
10:30 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
11:00 AM Cape Conversation
11:33 AM Learning Music with Pat
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:30 PM New England Cooks
1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
1:30 PM The Chundria Show
2:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
2:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV
3:00 PM Racism in America
4:13 PM 4 Deep Sports Talk
5:00 PM Governor Baker COVID-19 Update
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM Recovery Recreation TV
7:00 PM This is America & The World
7:30 PM The World Fusion Show
8:00 PM Money Matters TV
8:30 PM Science 360
9:00 PM IA Baseball
10:00 PM Gay USA
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

Wednesday February 10, 2021
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Seniors on the Move
8:00 AM On the Move
9:00 AM You and Your Health
9:30 AM Health Source
10:00 AM Tae Kwon Do
10:30 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
11:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church
11:30 AM The Art of Being Human
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:30 PM New England Cooks
1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
1:30 PM The Chundria Show
2:00 PM The Collective Chat
2:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV
3:00 PM The Kamla Show
4:00 PM Science 360
4:30 PM The World Fusion Show
5:00 PM Governor Baker COVID-19 Update
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM 4 Deep Sports Talk
7:09 PM Racism in America
8:30 PM Registers Report
9:00 PM Gay USA
10:00 PM Suicide Prevention in Massachusetts
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

MARION GOVERNMENT
Comcast Channel 95
Verizon Channel 39
Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Marion Conservation Commission - January 27, 2021
9:06 AM Marion Zoning Board of Appeals - January 28, 2021
9:11 AM Marion School Committee - January 19, 2021
11:00 AM ORR School Committee - January 20, 2021
1:10 PM Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission - January 25, 2021
1:43 PM Marion Finance Committee - January 20, 2021
2:47 PM Marion School Committee - January 19, 2021
4:30 PM Marion Planning Board - January 19, 2021
5:00 PM Marion Conservation Commission - January 27, 2021
7:06 PM Marion Zoning Board of Appeals - January 28, 2021
7:11 PM Marion School Committee - January 19, 2021
9:00 PM ORR School Committee - January 20, 2021
11:10 PM Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission - January 25, 2021

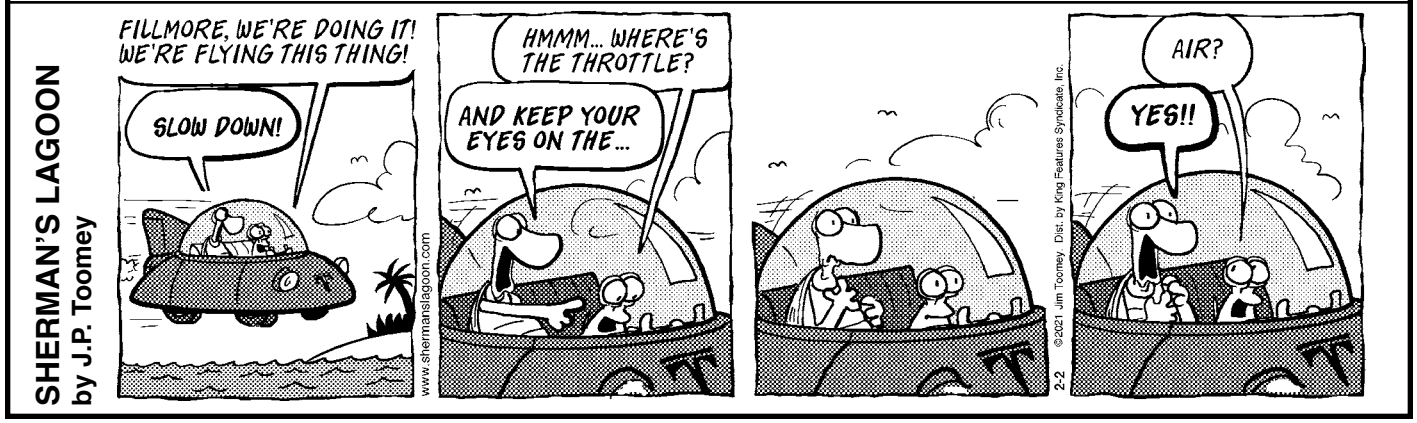
ROCHESTER GOVERNMENT
Comcast Channel 95
Verizon Channel 40
Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals - January 28, 2021
8:32 AM Rochester Conservation Commission - January 19, 2021
10:00 AM ORR School Committee - January 20, 2021
12:10 PM Rochester Planning Board - January 26, 2021
1:00 PM Rochester School Committee - January 21, 2021
3:00 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals - January 28, 2021
4:32 PM Rochester Conservation Commission - January 19, 2021
6:00 PM ORR School Committee - January 20, 2021
8:10 PM Rochester Planning Board - January 26, 2021
9:00 PM Rochester School Committee - January 21, 2021
11:00 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals - January 28, 2021

EDUCATION CHANNEL
Comcast Channel 97
Verizon Channel 37
Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Bulldog Weekly
7:21 AM OCTV
7:30 AM Rochester COA Senior Medicare Patrol
8:00 AM ORR Girls JV Basketball vs Case - January 8, 2021
9:00 AM Marion COA Meditation - January 26, 2021
10:05 AM ORR Girls Varsity Basketball vs Case - January 8, 2021
10:43 AM ORR Boys Varsity Hockey vs Dartmouth - January 25, 2021
12:00 PM Bulldog Weekly
12:21 PM OCTV
12:30 PM ORR Boys Varsity Basketball vs Wareham - January 19, 2021
1:36 PM ORR Girls Varsity Basketball vs Apponequet - January 15, 2021
3:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - Women's Clothing in WWI
4:08 PM ORR Girls Varsity Basketball vs Case - January 8, 2021
4:46 PM Mattapoisett Historical Society - Jacqueline Kennedy's White House
6:00 PM Bulldog Weekly
6:21 PM OCTV
6:30 PM ORR Boys Varsity Hockey vs Dartmouth - January 25, 2021
7:42 PM ORR Girls Varsity Hockey vs Sandwich - January 23, 2021
9:00 PM ORR Boys Varsity Basketball vs Wareham - January 19, 2021
10:06 PM ORR Girls Varsity Basketball vs Apponequet - January 15, 2021
11:30 PM Sippican Historical Society - Women's Clothing in WWI

MATTAPOISETT GOVERNMENT
Comcast Channel 95
Verizon Channel 38







well field.

Davis indicated that the chemical-feed facility located at the East and West wells that also treats the water from Mary's Pond would have a backup generator. She further stated that if the power went down, Marion would have adequate water supply without Mary's Pond well as a source.

Willett told Parker that he believes the backup generator at the Wolf Island pump facility is permanent as opposed to portable. He added that all pumps should have backup generators and that Perry Hill is on the list. Parker suggested a portable backup generator that could be toted around on a trailer in the event any location went down due to power failure. Willett noted that the wastewater side at Wolf Island has two portable generators.

According to Davis, the three wells at Mary's Pond and the two wells at East and West will combine to produce 790,000 gallons per day. The building has been on Marion's capital funding project list for a few years, according to McGrail.

The commissioners also discussed where the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District fits in once Marion brings online its own water production potential.

Davis is coming up on a year as treasurer for the MRV, which is working with Tata & Howard on a plan to upgrade the filter system on its water treatment plant. A decision is expected on how to proceed by mid-February.

The MRV, which has Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester,

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(Peppers & onion over rice)
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Eggplant Parmesan over Pasta .$9.00
Scrambled Hamburger over Noodles$6.00
Sausage & Pasta$6.00
Chicken & Eggplant Combo over Pasta$9.00
Spaghetti & Meatballs$6.00
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OBITUARIES



William J. McIlmail, 86, of Mattapoisett passed away Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at Rhode Island Hospital. He was the husband of Sandra H. (Henshaw) McIlmail, with whom he shared 59 years of marriage.

Born in Pawtucket, RI, the son of the late William J. and Margaret M. (Lonergan) McIlmail, he moved to New Bedford at a young age. He honorably served in the U.S. Army and after being discharged, he married Sandra and moved to Mattapoisett to raise his family.

William was formerly employed as an architect at Saltonstall Associates for many years until his retirement.

He was a member of the Boston Society of Architects and The American Institute of Architects.

William was an avid cyclist, logging thousands of miles per year. He belonged to the Narragansett Bay Wheelmen and the Tandem Club of America. "PA" will be missed by his loving family.

He is survived by his wife, Sandra; his son, William McIlmail and his wife Lisa; and two grandchildren, William and Katherine.

Due current gathering restrictions, his funeral services will be private. Arrangements are by the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd., Mattapoisett. For online condolence book, visit www.saundersdwyer.com.



Frances (Kogut) Ryan, 79, of South Dartmouth passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 24, 2021.

Born in New Bedford, Frances was the daughter of the late John and Sophie (Kruszewski) Kogut. She graduated from New Bedford High School, and from the University of Connecticut.

In 1965, Frances married the love of her life, Denis J. Ryan, and moved to Dartmouth where she spent the rest of her life. Frances loved helping others. For more than 25 years, she was a dedicated educator at Dartmouth Middle School.

Grateful for her faith, family, and friends, Frances attended daily mass at St. Mary's Church in South Dartmouth and loved volunteering for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park. She enjoyed summering with her grandchildren at Crescent Beach in Mattapoisett and spending time with her many close friends and family.

Frances celebrated every day of her life as a selfless and giving friend, mother, and dedicated grandmother. She made everyone feel important and her friendly smile will be missed by many.

Frances is survived by her three daughters, Laurie Ryan of Dartmouth, MA, Susan Cawley (and husband Kip Cawley) of Wellesley, MA, and Jean Schluter (and husband John Schluter) of Westport, CT; her four grandchildren, Gillian Lee, Denison Cawley, and Johnny and Blake Schluter; and her sister, Nancy Kogut of Londonderry, NH. She was preceded in death by her husband, Denis J. Ryan.

Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 10:00 am in St. Mary's Church in South Dartmouth. Visiting hours are omitted. You must wear a mask to be allowed entry to the services and capacity at church could be limited. In lieu of flowers, donations in Frances' name may be made to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, c/o St. Mary's Church, 7989 Dartmouth St., Dartmouth, MA 02748. Arrangements are by the Saunders-Dwyer Home for Funerals, 495 Park St., New Bedford. For online condolence book, please visit www.saundersdwyer.com.



Richard L. Bertrand, 71, of Rochester passed away Friday, January 29, 2021 at his home, surrounded by loved ones after a long courageous battle with leukemia. He was the loving husband of Denise C. Bertrand for 49 blessed years.

Born in New Bedford, the son of Georgette "Gerri" Bertrand and the late Robert H. Bertrand, he grew up in Mattapoisett, and lived in Rochester for most of his life.

Richard was loved and respected by all who knew him. He was a hard worker, and a family man. Richard preferred the simple life, and just spending time with his wife. He also enjoyed fishing and hunting with his son, visiting his daughter wherever the Army moved her family, and joking with his grandchildren (being a "Pepere"). His hobbies included working in his garden, and puttering around his home and yard.

Richard was an automotive machinist and the president of Motor Tech, Inc. in New Bedford. However, he was most known for his creative inventions and his ability to fix anything.

In addition to his wife and mother, he is survived by his daughter, Christine Delvaux (her husband Steven), his son, Richard S. Bertrand (his wife Kelly), his siblings, Jacqueline McCarthy (her husband Michael), Robert Bertrand (his wife Lisa), Jannine Mitchell (her partner Michael Kirkwood), his grandchildren, Ryan Delvaux (his fiancée Casey Solana), Evan Delvaux (his wife Mary), Daniel Bertrand, and Leah Bertrand.

His visitation will be held on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 from 5-8 pm at the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd., Route 6, Mattapoisett. Due to current gathering restrictions, his Funeral Mass will be private, and by invitation only. For the online condolence book, please visit www.saundersdwyer.com. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Dana Farber Cancer Institute,

and Fairhaven as members, bonds its projects independently. The new filter project would be financed by extending an existing loan the MRV has out on its facility for two more years. As Davis explained, every five years, the percentage of MRV-produced water that the towns are allocated is reevaluated based on flow and operating costs. Marion, she estimated, was at 28 percent of allocation.

Waterman suggested that, once the Wolf Island plant is up and running, Marion won't need to be a participant in the MRV Water District. Still, Parker, McGrail, and Willett reinforced the MRV's importance as a backup source.

"I just think we have to think about these things and be smart about them," said Waterman. "If Wolf Island turns out to be extraneous once we get all these wells up and operating— I don't think it will be, but it sounds like a lot of the time at least— in the offseason, we wouldn't need it, that's all."

Waterman and Willett agreed that the town should be opportunistic should another town need Marion's water.

Mooney reported Marion to be at 11 percent in MRV-related operations and capital but with a flow base at 14 percent. "That number will improve, no question, but we still need to put water into that tower at Benson Brook," said Parker, noting that the tower behind the town landfill is where MRV water is received.

The sewer report began with an update on the Creek Road station that will benefit from $4 million in funding with the state's Coastal Resilience Grant program. Davis said the town is working on a design with Weston and Samson. The design project must conclude by June 2021, when the grant season ends. The state's Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) supports local projects to address storm surge, flooding, erosion, and sea-level rise.

"We're going to go hard at construction grant money because we have no way we can afford it through debt," said McGrail.

An Infiltration/Inflow program, including installation of pipe lining, is scheduled for completion by the end of February. The contractor, Canton-based National Watermain Cleaning Company, main-line cleaned and inspected Cottage, Main, Front, Pitcher, and School Streets. The current work, estimated to be approximately 6,200 linear feet of water mains at an FY21 cost of $190,000, is to be completed by the end of February, putting Marion into Year 3 of the contract.



Waterman pointed to the proposed Heron Cove residential development, saying, "If it goes ahead, there's going to be a big push to reduce I/I on that. [Weston and Samson] ought to start thinking about where the low-hanging fruit is to spend that money to maximize the I/I reduction.... We're talking over a million dollars, so that would be equal to five years of I/I reduction ... that we'd be able to do right away."

McGrail said that Weston and Samson came up with a proposal for developer Ken Steen to consider as an I/I project.

The subject of wastewater infiltration and inflow once again became a talking point because it costs the town $13.80 per gallon to remove it, then it recovers 60 cents per gallon in fees. "When we do come up with a number that we know is way too low, we need to be all over it," said Waterman.

Tilden said the commissioners could change the fees anytime they want. McGrail recommended a vote on what was presented, edited, and updated with a stipulation that the Board of Selectmen would review the rate structure. That way, it wouldn't wait for another quarterly sewer meeting.

"The basis for the change for not permitting separate meters for irrigation was based on us interpreting the rules and regulations the way we did on Main Street and then realizing that it created a pretty massive problem for us," said McGrail. "We're here tonight to fix that. In hindsight, we

OBITUARIES

in his memory.



Bonnie R. (Reynolds) DeLuca, 71, of Marion, passed away after a long illness on Wednesday, January 27, 2021. Born in Wareham, raised in Marion, she was the daughter of the late Arthur Reynolds and June (Bumpus) Schroth. Bonnie graduated from ORR High School and was a loan officer for Compass bank for over 30 years. She loved to travel, sailing Buzzards Bay, and spending time with family, especially her beloved grandchildren.

No services are scheduled.

If you have a notice you would like to have included in the Obituaries section, please contact our office at: 508 758-9055, or by email at office@wanderer.com.

TriTown Happenings





Town of Marion officials cut the ribbon on the Benson Brook Transfer Station to Marion and Rochester residents on January 27. From the left: Town Administrator Jay McGrail, Selectman John Waterman, Bob Partridge, Board of Selectmen Chairman Randy Parker, Stephen Cushing, and Selectman Norm Hills. Adjacent photo, Parker displays future plans for the station. Photos by Mick Colageo



Photo by Mary Warden



Photo by Jen Shepley



Teresa Dall shared a photo of her amaryllis, which got very showy in her living room this year. Spring is coming!

These photos and more are available online at www.wanderer.com

would have handled it differently."

Willett proposed three minor additions for the vote. One was to update the permit language from "disturbing the surface" to "street opening." A second update recognizes that Marion is using the American Darling hydrant. The third update changes the DPW superintendent to DPW director.

The motion carried.

Davis said that the Sewer Department is also looking at establishing a document for procedures. Weston and Samson has completed its site visits to collect data and, at the time of the meeting, was analyzing the data. Davis said the DPW anticipates a draft document from the firm in early February.

Willett discussed the need to establish Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) documents for both water and sewer, noting that small groups run the plant and manage information. "I think it's crucial to have this sort of high-level outline to operate both of the facilities and the distribution system," he said. Waterman and Hills agreed on the necessity of documentation and procedures, not only for backup "but to make sure we're doing it right ourselves," said Hills.

The Wastewater Management Plan will include a Citizens Advisory Committee that Willett said he and Tilden are targeting February and March for setup.

Willett brought to the commissioners' attention a newly installed fire hydrant on Route 6 that is out of the prescribed specification on its height due to the use of parts available in the DPW shop because the contract only provided for the labor. The result is the barrel section is roughly close to 10 inches above the maximum specified height and would be

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Movie Review

Art World

By Rob Gonsalves
www.robsmovievault.com

***The Wanting Mare*. Starring Jordan Monaghan and Yasamin Keshtkar. Directed by Nicholas Ashe Bateman. Running time: 89 minutes. No MPAA rating. Coming soon to physical and streaming home video.**

If you're anything like me, you sometimes find the idea of engaging with difficult art — dry philosophical writing, discordant music, slow and artsy film — more appealing than the reality of it. Such might be true of Nicholas Ashe Bateman's feature debut *The Wanting Mare,* which I almost feel I owe a second viewing. It's everything I often say I want more of in movies, and so I dearly wish it had grabbed me at any point. A little humor might have helped; a darting spot of personality. But it's an art object, and the people in it are not characters so much as concepts. Here and there it reminded me of another doodle of artsy fantasy, *Begotten,* although this film at least appeals much more to the eye.

Maybe too much. *The Wanting Mare* was shot mostly in a huge storage unit, even though more than half its scenes take place outside. Bateman then spent several years digitally painting the backdrop, or, if you will, the world. So the space the actors seem to inhabit doesn't exist, but then the actors barely seem to exist in it either. The images have richness and depth; the characters don't. I think we glancingly see one character laughing, during a montage in which we don't know why she's laughing. The scene is abstract, like the rest of the movie; the woman laughing stands in for the idea of amusement.

The montage is supposed to pull us into identification with young couple Moira (Jordan Monaghan) and Lawrence (Bateman), who meet inauspiciously when Moira happens across a bleeding Lawrence after he bungles a robbery. In this stark world, which has intimations of the apocalyptic, people speak in whispers about their dreams of the time before. Whatever that past was like, it was probably better than the movie's present, where people kill and die for precious tickets to journey "across" to a better land. I read somewhere that



Bateman wants to make further movies set in this bifurcated world of Anmaere, and again, the *idea* of a shared-universe series of stubbornly obscure art films is much happier than the actual films would probably be.

After a while, all the movie has going for it is its artificial environment, and sadly there's at least one shot where you can see the seams, a car's wheels that are clearly rolling across a flatter surface than the bumpy soil that was cooked up in a computer beneath the car. When a movie rests so heavily on the authenticity of its visual fakery, a glitch like that really wrenches us out of its spell. The movie hasn't earned the simple warm goodwill we extend to the iffier shark effects in *Jaws,* agreeing to overlook one klutzy shot because every other one has been fantastic. The images in *The Wanting Mare* are gorgeous, but they don't connect to much, and they unfold at a remove from us.

The uncharitable suspicion grows that the movie considers rumpled, ornery, funny humanity too crude for its scheme. People whisper languidly at each other. Generations pass; babies grow into women who adopt other babies who grow into women, and they're all looking for The Dream that exists somewhere Across, from the World Before. The dialogue is almost all capitalized like that. The conversations are somberly meaningless — plot blurts that read like cookie fortunes. Part of the backstage drama of the film involves Bateman hinging everything on effects to be added later, effects he had no idea whether it could pull off. Well, mostly he has, and the movie is one hell of a calling card — proof that Bateman can craft bleakly convincing scenery. What he needs are compelling people to stick in front of it.

vulnerable, for instance, to a truck veering off the road.

The land, located at Mill Street off Route 6 on the other side of the sidewalk, abuts a wetland and slopes away from the road, so it would not be conducive to adding more landfill. "We shouldn't set a bad precedent," said Parker, who recommended the hydrant be installed "the right way." Hills and Waterman agreed.

The commissioners voted to enter executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation. The commissioners did not return to open session.

The next quarterly meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission was not scheduled as of yet.

Marion Vaccination Enters Phase 2, Age 85+ First in Line

Marion Board of Health

By Jean Perry

The state has approved the Town of Marion to receive 100 doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccination for those eligible through Phase 2 of the state's vaccination distribution plan, according to the Town's latest press release.

"The big problem," said Marion Board of Health Chairman Dr. Edward Hoffer on February 2, "is there simply is not enough of the vaccine available."

The BOH's solution was to begin distributing vaccines to its oldest citizens first.

These 100 doses have explicitly been allotted only for those 75-years-old and older, who became eligible on Monday, February 1, through Phase 2 of the state's vaccination distribution plan. However, the BOH is prioritizing residents by age and has been working down a list provided by the state based on census data of residents from oldest to youngest in the 85-years-old and older category.

BOH member Dot Brown said she spent hours on the phone over the past few days with Marion residents, beginning with age 85+ and then starting to call residents who are 84 years old. So far, 86 of those 100 doses are spoken for. The seniors who have signed up for their first dose will receive them on Friday, February 5.

"We're hoping that going forward, we'll be able to use an email … mass mailing … and we'll be able to use the emails to give people the link to be able to sign up," said Brown.

According to the press release, residents 85-years-old and older who want to make sure they are on the list can contact the Town of Marion through a newly established hotline at 508-748-3509 to leave a message with their contact information. The Town of Marion is seeking additional vaccination allotments and will notify the community promptly if the state provides more vaccines for future weekly clinics.

Dr. Hoffer said that the Town continues to sign up each week for eligibility to provide vaccines to its citizens for the following week.

"We know many residents who become eligible on Monday have had a hard time obtaining an appointment, and we are so thankful to have been given these vaccines to provide to our residents," Town Administrator Jay McGrail

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Tri-town Police Logs



MARION
Log highlights Jan 24-Jan 30
- Mill St – Suspicious activity
- Mill St – Health/welfare
- Front St – Suspicious MV
- Cross Neck Rd – EMS/medical
- Cove St – Officer wanted
- Joanne Dr – EMS/medical
- Mill St – Health/welfare
- Benson Brook Rd – Officer wanted
- Route 195 West – MV collision
- Main St – EMS/medical
- Wareham Rd – Suspicious person
- Wareham Rd - Disturbance
- Point Rd - Fraud
- Hastings Rd – Health/welfare
- Mill St – Larceny/past
- Mill St – Abandoned property
- Vine St – EMS/medical
- Mill St – Larceny/past
- Wareham Rd – Health/welfare
- Mill St – Officer wanted
- Converse Rd – EMS/medical
- Lewis St - Fraud
- Route 195 West – MV collision
- Reservation Way - Death
- Indian Cove Rd – Disturbance/family
- Spring St – MV collision
- Mill St – Officer wanted
- Front St - Disturbance
- Front St – Follow up investigation

MATTAPOISETT
Log highlights Jan 24-Jan 30
- Acushnet Rd – Suspicious MV
- Tinkham Ln – Officer wanted
- County Rd – Property found
- Ocean Dr – Officer wanted
- Ocean Dr – 911 call
- County Rd – Sex offenses
- I195 West – MV crash
- County Rd – Larceny/forgery/fraud
- Meadowbrook Ln – 911 call
- Barstow St – Ambulance request
- County Rd – MV crash
- County Rd – 911 abandoned
- Barstow St – Officer wanted
- I195 West – MV crash
- Barstow St – Follow up investigation
- Angelica Ave – MV crash
- North St – Domestic disturbance
- County Rd – Transport prisoner
- Acushnet Rd – Follow up
- Marion Rd – Sex offenses
- Marion Rd – Suspicious persons
- Mechanic St – Suspicious MV
- Oliver's Ln – Health/welfare
- Oliver's Ln – Domestic disturbance
- Marion Rd – Assist other agency
- I195 West – MV crash
- Church St – 911 call
- Acushnet Rd – Medical assist
- County Rd – Larceny/forgery/fraud

ROCHESTER
Log highlights Jan 24-Jan 30
- Vaughn Hill Rd – MV stop/citation
- Meadow Ln – 911 call
- Marys Pond Rd – MV stop
- Rounseville Rd - Medical
- Marys Pond Rd – Suspicious activity
- High St - Medical
- Marys Pond Rd - Medical
- Cranberry Hwy – 911 call
- Cromwell Ln – 911 call
- Negus Way – Suspicious activity
- County Rd – Suspicious activity
- Pine St – 911 call
- Braley Hill Rd – MV collision
- Marys Pond Rd – MV collision
- New Bedford Rd – MV collision
- Martin Cir - Medical
- Cushman Rd – Animal control
- County Rd – MV collision
- Marion Rd - Medical
- Cranberry Hwy – MV stop/arrest
- County Rd – Road hazard
- Walnut Plain Rd – Medical
- North Ave – MV stop/citation
- Bennett Rd – Animal control
- Cranberry Hwy - Disturbance
- Snipatuit Rd – Animal control
- Marys Pond Rd - Medical
- High St - Medical
- Horse Neck Rd – Firearms licensing

For a full PDF of the three towns' police logs from the past week, including arrest reports, visit www.Wanderer.com.



Regional Lunch Menus

COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM
Monday, Feb 8: Broccoli & cheese omelet, hashbrowns, peppers & onions, fruit loaf, applesauce
Tuesday, Feb 9: Chicken bruschetta, Tahitian vegetable blend, whipped sweet potato, oatmeal bread, banana
Wednesday, Feb 10: Meatloaf w/gravy, Lyonnaise potatoes, mixed vegetables, wheat bread, Mandarin oranges
Thursday, Feb 11: Roast pork w/rosemary gravy, cheesy mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, oatmeal roll, red velvet cake, diet: strawberry cup
Friday, Feb 12: Shepherd's pie, peas & mushrooms, whole wheat roll, mixed fruit

CENTER SCHOOL
Monday, Feb 8: Hamburger/cheeseburger, lettuce & tomato, roasted chic peas, oven roasted French fries, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Tuesday, Feb 9: Sloppy Joe sandwich, onion rings, fresh veggie sticks, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Wednesday, Feb 10: Bulldog breakfast sandwich, potato puffs, fresh veggie sticks, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Thursday, Feb 11: Spaghetti with meat sauce, warm breadstick, savory green beans, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Friday, Feb 12: Pizza sticks, marinara sauce, garden salad, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch

OLD HAMMONDTOWN
Monday, Feb 8: Hamburger/cheeseburger, lettuce & tomato, roasted chic peas, oven roasted French fries, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Tuesday, Feb 9: Sloppy Joe sandwich, onion rings, fresh veggie sticks, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Wednesday, Feb 10: Bulldog breakfast sandwich, potato puffs, fresh veggie sticks, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Thursday, Feb 11: Spaghetti with meat sauce, warm breadstick, savory green beans, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Friday, Feb 12: Pizza sticks, marinara sauce, garden salad, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH
Monday, Feb 8: Remote grab n go meal pick up
Tuesday, Feb 9: Bulldog breakfast sandwich, potato puffs, fresh veggie sticks, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Wednesday, Feb 10: Bulldog breakfast sandwich, potato puffs, fresh veggie sticks, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Thursday, Feb 11: Spaghetti with meat sauce, warm breadstick, savory green beans, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Friday, Feb 12: Spaghetti with meat sauce, warm breadstick, savory green beans, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch

ROCHESTER MEMORIAL
Monday, Feb 8: Hamburger/cheeseburger, lettuce & tomato, roasted chic peas, oven roasted French fries, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Tuesday, Feb 9: Sloppy Joe sandwich, onion rings, fresh veggie sticks, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Wednesday, Feb 10: Bulldog breakfast sandwich, potato puffs, fresh veggie sticks, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Thursday, Feb 11: Spaghetti with meat sauce, warm breadstick, savory green beans, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Friday, Feb 12: Pizza sticks, marinara sauce, garden salad, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch

SIPPICAN SCHOOL
Monday, Feb 8: Hamburger/cheeseburger, lettuce & tomato, roasted chic peas, oven roasted French fries, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Tuesday, Feb 9: Sloppy Joe sandwich, onion rings, fresh veggie sticks, snack size Cape Cod chips, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Wednesday, Feb 10: Bulldog breakfast sandwich, potato puffs, fresh veggie sticks, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Thursday, Feb 11: Spaghetti with meat sauce, warm breadstick, savory green beans, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch
Friday, Feb 12: Pizza sticks, marinara sauce, garden salad, assorted fresh fruit, 1% milk OR PB&J fun lunch

OLD COLONY REGIONAL
Monday, Feb 8: Taco's, salsa, cheese, lettuce, corn & black beans in a taco shell or over rice
Tuesday, Feb 9: Build your own burger & fries
Wednesday, Feb 10: In school students will have the opportunity to bring home a pizza or a PB&J meal
Thursday, Feb 11: Meatball sub, green beans & fries
Friday, Feb 12: Assorted pizza

said in the press release. "However, this is a very limited number of doses, and so we're prioritizing residents by age at this time. I'd also like to thank our Board of Health for their hard work in making this clinic possible."

The press release urges residents eligible through Phase 1 and those who became eligible for the vaccination on February 1 through the state's distribution plan to make an appointment by going to mass.gov/COVIDvaccine to find their phase and priority group. To find a vaccine clinic nearby, visit mass.gov/COVIDvaccineMap.

If a resident is having difficulty navigating the website to schedule a COVID-19 vaccine appointment, call the Town of Marion at 508-748-3509 for support.

Although the state is creating more mass vaccination sites, vaccination depends on availability, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at this time, is prepared to distribute more vaccinations than it has.

"The state has not yet announced when individuals 65-years-old and older and those with two or more comorbidities will be able to receive the vaccine," the press release states. "This will be announced when more information is available about additional doses of the vaccine to be provided to the state by the federal government."

The vaccine will not be available to the general public until April.

Dr. Hoffer announced during the meeting that the Town has added supplemental funding to the Board of Health's fiscal year 2022 budget to cover the cost of additional nursing hours to assist later in the year when the Town will be providing the vaccine to Marion residents of the general population. He also stated that residents at Little Neck Village had received their first dose of the vaccine through the same state pharmacy program that provided vaccines to staff and residents at Sippican Healthcare Center, which freed up more of the 100 vaccines allotted to Marion seniors.

All the staff and residents at Sippican Healthcare Center have already received their second dose of the Pfizer vaccine. There are, however, four confirmed positives cases currently at the nursing home.

According to Public Health Nurse Lori Desmarais, Marion currently has 39 active COVID-19 cases for a total of 332 confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic.

At Sippican School, there are zero quarantines, zero in isolation, and there have been 28 confirmed cases since the pandemic began.

Old Rochester Regional Junior High School reports seven people in quarantine and four in isolation, with a total of 28 cases. ORR High School presently has nine in quarantine and two in isolation, and a total of 68 cases so far.

Tabor Academy has welcomed back its students over the past weekend after a two-week pre-arrival quarantine. Testing was performed on staff and students upon arrival, with zero positive results.

"They did awesome," said Desmarais. "The testing all came back negative, so that is a good thing."

Tabor Academy will continue to perform routine COVID-19 testing over the coming weeks.

The next meeting of the Marion Board of Health will be held on Tuesday, February 16, at 4:00 pm.

ORR Girls Looking for Perfect Finish

Sports Roundup

By Nick Friar

Now six games into their abbreviated 2020-21 season, the Old Rochester Regional girls basketball team is still without a loss heading into its final game of the regular season against Fairhaven. The Bulldogs were able to maintain their perfect record, despite having quite a bit of adversity thrown their way.

After knocking off Apponequet in their third game of the season, the Bulldogs had to quarantine for seven days. Not only were their next games against Wareham and Dighton-Rehoboth canceled, but ORR also was prohibited from practicing as a team. With ORR's players healthy by the end of the quarantine, the Bulldogs were able to practice before their game against Bourne. Clearly, **Meg Horan** and company were good to go, dominating the Canalmen, 60-17.

"The girls came back ready to go," ORR girls basketball coach Rick Regan said. "I thought we played our best game of the year at Bourne, defensively and offensively. We kind of put it all together in that game, and it carried over a little bit to [GNB Voc-Tech]."

Horan followed up her 11-point performance against Bourne with another 11-point showing against Voc-Tech in the Bulldogs' 50-16 win. Things got a little tougher for ORR while hosting Dighton-Rehoboth, but the Bulldogs still came out with a win. Horan scored 13 points and grabbed six boards as the Bulldogs squeaked past the Falcons, 39-38.

"She's our true leader," Regan said of Horan. "She's the glue, she keeps us together. She is so consistent, and, like I said on Senior Night (against Dighton-Rehoboth), she not only is a leader in the term 'captain', but she also does it with her positive voice. She does it by example, and she wants to help the underclassmen below her. She's a leader. She's willing to help rather than just tell people what to do — that's not her. She's willing to help, and she's willing to be an example so that others can follow."

The Bulldogs also had strong games from **Maggie Brogioli** (21 points vs. Bourne) and **Logan Fernandes** (10 points vs. GNB Voc-Tech; 10 points and four steals vs. Dighton-Rehoboth).

After Wednesday's regular-season finale against Fairhaven, the Bulldogs will find out who they'll face in the first round of this year's South Coast Conference tournament.



Super Crossword

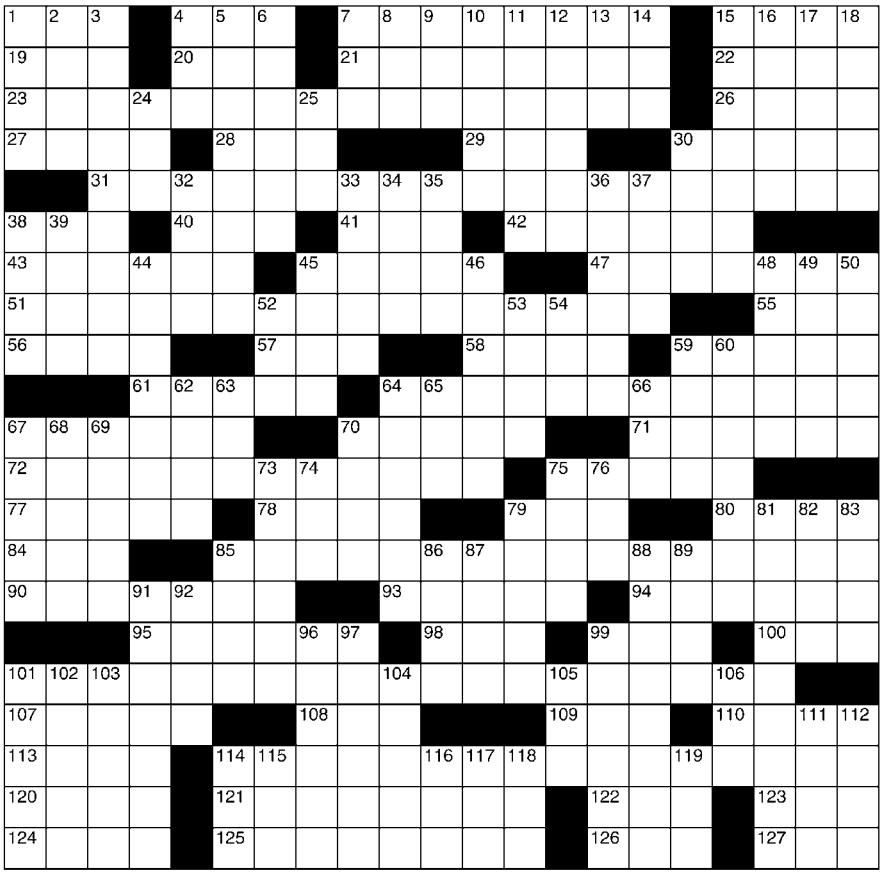
TECH BUZZ

ACROSS

1 TV ET from Melmac
4 Puncturing tool
7 Restrained like Rover
15 "To a ..." poems
19 Road gunk
20 Zodiac beast
21 Course taker, e.g.
22 Actress Carter
23 Start of a riddle
26 Singer Fitzgerald
27 Grove sight
28 Certain boxing stat
29 Mil. bigwig
30 Pale-looking
31 Riddle, part 2
38 Kilmer of film
40 Alley- —
41 Lion's foot
42 Fellow's wig
43 Actor Estevez
45 Sega's hedgehog
47 Look up to
51 Riddle, part 3
55 Lyric-writing Gershwin
56 Globes
57 "Ixnay"
58 "Take this"
59 Brainstorms
61 Parsley bit
64 Riddle, part 4
67 Kay Thompson title girl
70 Native Kiwi
71 Fluctuated greatly
72 Riddle, part 5
75 Odor
77 French port in Brittany
78 Outing ruiner
79 Afflicted
80 Poses
84 Inflated self
85 Riddle, part 6
90 TV talker Phil
93 Slipknot loop
94 Andress of "Dr. No"
95 Highest volcano in Eur.
98 Mil. bigwig
99 Mumbai "Mr."
100 Cotillion girl
101 End of the riddle
107 Throat affliction, for short
108 To the — degree
109 Western Hemisphere gp.
110 McEntire of song
113 Hair removal brand
114 Riddle's answer
120 Deli sandwiches, for short
121 Grow pale
122 Oct. follower
123 O'Hare approx.
124 Anatomical sac
125 Slammer
126 Porker's place
127 Water barrier

DOWN

1 Element statistic: Abbr.
2 Oz lion player Bert
3 Ascend a rock face without aids for support
4 Done in the style of
5 Vanished as if by magic
6 Tilt the head skyward
7 Big Brit. lexicon
8 Houston-to-Dallas dir.
9 Actress Nicole — Parker
10 Vowel sound in "game"
11 Born first
12 Alicia of ballet
13 Use stitches
14 "— a Rebel"
15 Like a single-part process
16 City of India
17 Barkin of "The Fan"
18 Street talk
24 Prefix with colonialism
25 Auction unit
30 Mars, to the Greeks
32 Move around in confusion
33 Pleistocene, for one
34 Spout off
35 Axis-vs.-Allies event
36 Singer Tina
37 Copycatted
38 Bill blocker
39 Eros, to the Romans
44 Young girls
45 Hang-up
46 Be logically connected
48 Letters after "had a farm"
49 Ache for
50 Subdued with a shock
52 Lead-in to lateral
53 Classic soda brand
54 Coach Parseghian
59 Very hot star
60 Anti-alcohol measures
62 Oct. exam for many juniors
63 Home: Abbr.
64 Compound in wine
65 Greedy type
66 Indigo, e.g.
67 Fix firmly
68 One of the Florida Keys
69 Cineplex — (former theater chain)
70 Hurt severely
73 Following loyally
74 Zodiac beast
75 Plum used to flavor gin
76 Roman 1,051
79 Commercial lead-in to -gram or -matic
81 Shivered in fear or revulsion
82 Frilly veggie
83 Wild guess
85 Lewis of rock
86 Apt to pry
87 Artist Vincent van —
88 Master marksman
89 Actress Moran
91 Calvin Coolidge's college
92 Beginning of a web address
96 Papal envoy
97 2017 World Series winners
99 Gives rise to
101 Rachel Maddow's channel
102 Rome's land
103 Ground corn dish
104 Burn — in one's pocket
105 Chili holder
106 Foul up
111 Version being tested
112 Eden evictee
114 "I'm less than impressed"
115 "Who am — argue?"
116 Cave in
117 Siouan people
118 A small number of
119 Trellis plant



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SALOME'S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A gracious Lamb can learn more about a problem-filled situation than one who is openly suspicious of what could be happening. A friend might offer some well-directed advice.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Getting adjusted to an unexpected change might be difficult for the Bovine, who prefers things to go according to plan. But help could come from a most welcome source.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) This could be a good time to get a head start on those career-related plans. The sooner you check out the pluses and minuses, the sooner you can act on your information.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A personal situation you thought would no longer present a problem could suddenly produce some surprises. Try to sort things out with the help of trusted colleagues.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) An upcoming move holds both anticipation and anxiety for Leos and Leonas who have some big decisions to make. Advice is plentiful, but it's up to you to decide which way you want to go.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Someone from a previous project could provide valuable guidance on how to handle a current problem, especially where it might involve a legal matter.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A business situation presents some unexpected complications. But rather than try to handle them all at once, it would be best to deal with them one at a time.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You just might get what you want, despite the odds against it. In any event, be sure to thank all those people involved who believed in you and went to bat for you.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Before you even hint at an accusation, remember that you'll have to prove what you say. So be sure you have what you need to back up your comments.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A romantic situation takes an unexpected turn that favors some Sea Goats, but causes others to reassess how they've been handling the relationship.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A surprise turn of events could unsettle the Water Bearer. But it also might help open up an entirely different way of working out an important matter.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A smoothly running operation could bump up against an obstacle. This is where your ability to assess situations and make adjustments can restore things to normal.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your kindness is legendary, and so is your strong sense of responsibility.

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Boys Basketball

ORR dropped to 2-6 after falling 52-50 at home to Seekonk, the team the Bulldogs were supposed to face to kick-off their abbreviated season. **Alex Wright** and **Liam Geraghty** were once again among the team's leading scorers, finishing with 11 points apiece, but it was **Jagger Jones** who led ORR with 12 points in the loss.

The Bulldogs will close the regular season on Wednesday against Fairhaven.

Girls Ice Hockey

ORR's final game of the girls hockey season against Bishop Stang was originally set to take place on Wednesday but has been moved to Monday, February 8, at Hetland Memorial rink in New Bedford. The puck drops at 2:30 p.m.
Boys Ice Hockey

The Bulldogs remain at 3-2-1 after their scheduled meeting with GNB Voc-Tech at Gallo Ice Arena was postponed. ORR was able to secure its third victory in the game prior against Bourne. **Chris Gauvin** scored what proved to be the game-winner inside the two-minute mark, giving the Bulldogs a 4-3 lead and eventual win over the Canalmen.

The Bulldogs are back in action on Wednesday when they face Somerset Berkley on the road at Driscoll Skating Arena. ORR then returns to Gallo Ice Arena on Saturday for a 1:00 p.m. puck-drop against Seekonk.

Letters to the Editor

The views expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are not necessarily those of The Wanderer, its staff or advertisers. The Wanderer will gladly accept any and all correspondence relating to timely and pertinent issues in the great Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester area, provided they include the author's name, address and phone number for verification. We cannot publish anonymous, unsigned or unconfirmed submissions. The Wanderer reserves the right to edit, condense and otherwise alter submissions for purposes of clarity and/or spacing considerations. The Wanderer may choose to not run letters that thank businesses, and The Wanderer has the right to edit letters to omit business names. The Wanderer also reserves the right to deny publication of any submitted correspondence.

To the Editor;

The Buzzards Bay Coalition (BBC) continues to promote the idea of a regional wastewater solution centered at the Wareham plant on the Agawam River that would treat waste from Bourne, Wareham, Plymouth, Marion, and Mass Maritime Academy. Conceptually, it's a good idea as waste treatment plants have high fixed costs and are increasingly required to make large capital investments to meet new environmental regulations. Scale is important. The large plants treat more waste and are able to spread the high fixed costs over more ratepayers, lowering the average cost per rate payer.

It is an unfortunate characteristic of Marion's relationship with BBC that whenever we tell them we can't afford something, they interpret it as Marion not wanting to do it. BBC may not want to hear that towns such as Marion have serious financial constraints and face a huge backlog of deferred infrastructure projects. Yes, BBC has helped us with the studies over the years. But we don't need more studies. We desperately need help paying for our large capital projects, such as lining lagoon 1 at our wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).

BBC reportedly has spent over $700,000 on feasibility studies related to regionalizing waste treatment in Wareham. None of us would spend thousands of dollars designing a house we couldn't afford. We would give the architect a budget and probably have one or more financing sources identified, if not committed in advance.

It is time for BBC to put the brakes on studying and promoting the idea of regionalization, and to do some serious financial analysis. They need to answer the question: Is regionalization a pipe dream or anchored in financial reality?

Based on the information developed to date, they should be able to determine the rough order of magnitude costs (1) for installing a pipe to transport waste from Marion to Wareham, (2) for expanding the Wareham plant, and (3) for building a new outfall from the Wareham plant to a location on the Cape Cod Canal. One of their funded studies has already estimated the cost of a pipe to transport waste from Marion to Wareham at $20 million.

Once all estimates are available, they need to earnestly look for sources of federal, state, and other money to help participating towns pay for a project of this magnitude. Simply saying the state loves the project is insufficient, more so in today's environment. The towns will have to fund design, construction, and permitting over a period a years before the expanded facility is constructed, operational, and producing income. Paying for construction, as it is completed, will be above and beyond whatever funds towns currently are expending for waste treatment.

More than once, we questioned the affordability with

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Groundhog Cover Contest

Congratulations, and thank you to everyone who entered this year's Groundhog Cover Contest. We had a fabulous and inventive selection, and it was a tough choice for many. These entries can also be seen in the photo gallery at www.wanderer.com.



Andrew Hebert



Aubry Sousa



Calin Mort



Elsa Pothier



Gavin Costa



Kenzie Kazen



Nancy Moreira



Genevieve Hebert



Caroline Houdelette



Gabriella Estevez



Piper Newell



Sophie Bozzo



Emily Wyman

BBC. Their response was: When the time comes, Marion will have to decide whether it wants to participate or not. That's not good enough. Marion will need significant financial help to participate in regionalization. If Marion does not participate, the cost of expanding the Wareham plant and of building the new outfall to the canal will drop very little. So, if Marion opts out, the cost to Bourne, Wareham, Plymouth, and Mass Maritime will go up.

The Wareham plant sits on the Agawam River. We have expressed our concern to BBC, on several occasions, about its exposure to sea level rise and storm surge flooding. Towns choosing to participate in regionalization don't want to be saddled with the additional cost of reconstructing or moving the Wareham plant to protect it based on 50-year projections for sea level rise. BBC has yet to address the threat of sea level rise for us.

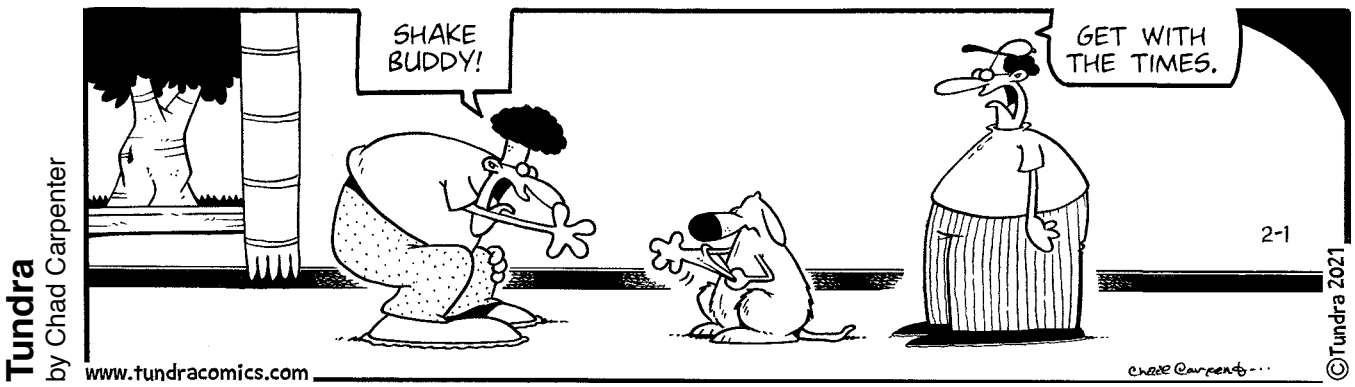
In a recent article, a BBC official was quoted as saying that Wareham "out-treats" every other sewer system in the region. That is simply not true. In 2020, Marion's WWTP average discharge nitrogen concentration was 2.8 mg/l (milligrams per liter) and Wareham's WWTP average discharge nitrogen concentration was worse at 3.6 mg/l. Marion is out-treating Wareham. The standard of treatment, thus, is not a justification for Marion to hook into Wareham.

The question we all need to ask: Is BBC designing a beautiful new house that we can't afford and in a location that will be exposed to storm surge and sea level rise?
John P. Waterman, Marion Selectman






TUNDRA
CHAD CARPENTER
ACTUALLY, WE DON'T HAVE ANY FRESH GROUND PEPPER. THIS IS JUST A TABLE LEG.


Tundra
by Chad Carpenter
SHAKE BUDDY!
GET WITH THE TIMES.
2-1
www.tundracomics.com
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off the mark
by Mark Parisi
WANNA GO FOR A WALK? TIME FOR DIN DIN! WANNA GO FOR A WALK? TIME FOR DIN DIN!
offthemark.com
Get a signed print of this comic: otmCartoon@gmail.com


Amber Waves
by Dave T. Phipps
I REALIZE IT'S REALLY COLD OUT BUT THIS IS REALLY RIDICULOUS.
MY MOTHER WORRIES TOO MUCH. SHE INSISTS ON BUNDLING ME UP!
THIS IS CRAZY. I CAN BARELY MOVE, I CAN'T SEE AND I'M SWEATY.
....I'M TALKING TO MYSELF AGAIN AREN'T I?

Academic Achievements

The following students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for the fall 2020 semester: **Olivia Ucci** of Marion earning High Honors, **Taylor Swoish** of Marion earning High Honors, **Alexandra Old** of Marion earning High Honors, **Megan Iverson** of Marion earning Highest Honors, **Lauren Pina** of Marion earning Highest Honors, **Carli Rita** of Mattapoisett earning Highest Honors, **Abigail Stark** of Mattapoisett earning Highest Honors, **Jason Gamache** of Mattapoisett earning Honors, **Alexandra Nicolosi** of Mattapoisett earning Highest Honors, **Emily Ziino** of Rochester earning Honors, **Thomas Miller** of Rochester earning High Honors, **Amanda Colwell** of Rochester earning Honors, **Kyah Woodland** of Rochester earning High Honors, **Carly Demanche** of Rochester earning High Honors, **Aidan Thayer** of Rochester earning Honors, and **Stephen Marston** of Rochester earning High Honors.

Students named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire are students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance during a semester enrolled in a full-time course load (12 or more graded credits). Highest honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded high honors, and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded honors.

The following Tri-Town students have made the Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology for the Fall 2020 semester: **Michelle Hanh** King of Rochester, **Julia L. Winsper** of Rochester, and **Sarah M. Sollauer** of Rochester.

Bryant University is dedicated to the pursuit, recognition, and celebration of academic excellence. The University is pleased to recognize the students who have been named to the Deans' List for the fall 2020 semester. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement: **Aiden Woods**, class of 2024, from Marion; **Alexandra Fluegel**, class of 2023, from Mattapoisett; **Margaret Adams**, class of 2023, from Mattapoisett; and **Sydney Mendonca**, class of 2024, from Mattapoisett.

Becker College is proud to announce that **Zachery Tilden** of Marion has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. Tilden is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Esports Management. The Dean's List recognizes all full-time students (24 or more credit hours earned for the academic year; 12 minimum each semester, September through May) whose term grade point average is 3.5 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete (I) or withdrawal/failing (WF) grades.

Mattapoisett resident **Olivia Ann Pellegrino** has been named to Husson University's Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. Pellegrino is a senior who is currently enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration and Public Health/Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program. Students who make the Dean's List must carry at least 12 graded credit hours during the semester and earn a grade point average of 3.60 to 3.79 during the period.

The following students were named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the fall 2020 semester. In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a four-point scale.

From Marion: **Paul Johnson Albani**, **Julia M Barrett**, **Marisa Cofone**, **Jacob Dorothy**, **Nicole Wu Sha Fantoni**, **Lauren Elizabeth Gonsalves**, **Hannah Guard**, **Andres Gutierrez**, **Daniel Yunhui Hartley**, and **Alissya C Silva**.

From Mattapoisett: **Samantha Lynn Ball**, **Adam Joseph Breault**, **Danielle Elizabeth Craig**, **Megan McGregor Field**, **Abigail Sarah Horan**, **Ryu Bao Huynh-Aoyama**, **Paul Herbert Kippenberger III**, **Victoria Lynne Kvilhaug**, **Morgan Luisa Mendonca**, **Samantha Nicolosi**, **Carly Angel O'Connell**, **Jahn A Pothier Jr**, **Gregory J Schneider**, **Jacob Spevack**, and **Alexander Michael Wurl**.

From Rochester: **Colby Ryan Alves**, **Erin Patricia Burke**, **Celia Grace Deverix**, **Arissa Francis**, **Sydney Elizabeth Green**, **Brianna Grignetti**, **Kristina Onute Hopkins**, **Amelia Ann Isabelle**, **Alisha Corinne Mackin**, **Emily Linda Marraffa**, **Gabriel C Noble Shriver**, **Olivia Victoria Taber**, and **Kurt Arthur Thompson**.

The following TriTown students were named to the Dean's List at Saint Michael's College for the Fall 2020 semester.

-Martha MacGregor, a junior business administration major from Rochester

-Justin Shay, a senior physics major from Rochester and a graduate of Old Rochester Regional High School.

ORRJH Students of the Month

Silas D. Coellner, principal of Old Rochester Regional

John English
Plumbing & Heating
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Residential & Commercial
New Construction & Remodeling
*Repairs * Turn on & off summer homes*
Master's License #11072

Threadfully Yours
Barbara "Bobbi" Gaspar
508-758-2058 theseamstress058@gmail.com
Alterations, Repairs & Custom Designs

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING #1160

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on the petition of Katherine Hartley for property located at 0 Pine Street, identified on Assessor's Map 37, Lot 20, who is seeking 2 Variances for relief under Chapter 20.40, Section D.1, for (1) approval to construct a single-family dwelling on a lot with reduced frontage of 16.64 feet rather than the required 225 feet, and (2) seeking relief from the building rectangle plan requirement. The public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.
To join the Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83355981660
Meeting ID: 833 5598 1660
One tap mobile: (646) 876-9923
David Arancio, Chairman 1/28, 2/4

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING #995

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on the petition of ILC Development, LLC for property located at 92 Pine Street, identified on Assessor's Map 37, Lot 47, who is seeking an amendment to Special Permit Appeal #995 issued on April 28, 2011 under Chapter 20.40, Section F.6., (formerly Section VIII.D.6.) of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws for the conversion of a repair bay to offices and an addition to an existing repair bay. The public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.
To join the Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83355981660
Meeting ID: 833 5598 1660
One tap mobile: (646) 876-9923
David Arancio, Chairman 1/28, 2/4

TOWN OF MARION
INVITATION TO BID
SILVERSHELL BEACH CONCESSION STAND
FOR YEARS 2021 - 2023

The Town of Marion, acting through the Office of the Town Administrator/CPO, is accepting sealed bids for the Silvershell Beach Concession Stand for the years 2021 through 2023. Information regarding this bid is available by contacting Town Administrator James McGrail at jmcgrail@marionma.gov or 508-748-3520. Bids are due no later than 11:00 am on Friday, February 26, 2021. The Town of Marion reserves the right to reject any and all bids; to waive any defects, informalities, and minor irregularities; to accept exceptions to these specifications; to award contracts or to cancel this Invitation to Bid if it is in the Town's best interest to do so.
James McGrail, Town Administrator/CPO 2/4

TOWN OF MARION
REQUEST FOR QUOTES (RFQ)
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONSULTANT

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, the Marion Affordable Housing Trust, by and through the Office of the Town Administrator/Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking a Housing and Community Engagement Consultant to assist in identifying a site suitable for housing and to provide guidance in what type of housing to consider for the site chosen. The RFQ will be available beginning Thursday, February 4, 2021 in the Office of the Board of Selectmen, Town House, 2 Spring Street, Marion, MA 02738, 508-748-3520 and on the Town of Marion website. Proposals are to be sealed and clearly marked "RFQ – Housing and Community Engagement Consultant". Responses to RFQ are due no later than 3:00 pm, Friday, February 26, 2021 in the Board of Selectmen's Office, 2 Spring Street, Marion, MA 02738. The Marion Board of Selectmen is the awarding authority. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to only award a contract if it is in the best interest of the public to do so.

The Town of Marion is an EEO/MBE/WBE employer
James P. McGrail
Town Administrator/Chief Procurement Officer
2/4

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION & TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF REMOTE PUBLIC HEARING

An Open Hearing of the Rochester Conservation Commission will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm regarding a Notice of Intent filed by Snipatuit Road Solar, LLC, P.O. Box 1320, Portsmouth, NH 03801, for property on 0 Snipatuit Road, designated as Lots 26, 27 on Rochester Assessors Map 46 and Lots 1, 4, 9, and 9A on Rochester Assessors Map 47.

The applicant proposes tree clearing, grading, construction of a perimeter access roadway, stormwater collection system and installation of portions of a 4.8 MW DC ground- mounted solar photovoltaic array within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, 200 Foot Riverfront Protection Area and 25 Foot No Disturb Zone. Proposed work is located within Estimated and Priority Habitat for Rare and Endangered Species, and is located within the Mattapoisett River Valley Watershed. A certified vernal pool is located within the central wetland to the south of the existing access drive and another two certified vernal pools are located on the west side of the property.

The applicant's representative is Beals and Thomas, 144 Turnpike Road, Southborough, MA 01772. The property owners of record are Kevin J. and Cassandra A. Cassidy, 529 Snipatuit Road, Rochester, MA, 02770, Aquidneck Nominee Trust, ET AL, Lisa Holden, Trustee, P.O Box 388, Rochester, MA 02770 and Rochester Realty Trust, P.O. Box 388, Rochester, MA 02770.

This meeting is being held under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, MGL Ch. 131, Section 40 and the Town of Rochester Wetland Protection By-Law.
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84297518746
Meeting ID: 842 9751 8746
Or Call: 1 646 876 9923
Michael Conway, Chairman 2/4

TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT
BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Mattapoisett Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on the following Applications and Petitions. ALL meetings held in the Mattapoisett Town Hall Conference room; 16 Main Street (unless otherwise noted) New format of meetings; start time is 6:00 pm.
NOTE REMOTE MEETING ON 02/18/2021 WILL START AT 6:00 pm***
CONTINUANCE OF:

Case #1457: Application of: Stephen E Goulsten, 46 Pammy's Path, North Easton, MA 02356; RE:27 Nashawena Road. The applicant is seeking a Special Permit under sections 3.1.1.2 as provided by Section 7.2.2 of the Zoning By-Laws to request permission to reconstruct a single-family home. The property is further described as Plot 15A, Lot 129 on the Assessors Map. The hearing will be held VIA Zoom on Thursday, January 21, 2021.

Due to restrictions on public gatherings because of COVID-19, this meeting will be held remotely, and members of the public will NOT be allowed to physically attend. To access the meeting please use the following log in information.
ZOOM
MEETING ID#----977 4615 6327
Dial by your location
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
Complete applications and plans as filed are available for inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk during normal office hours.
Sincerely,
Susan Akin, Chairperson
Mary Anne Brogan, Kenneth Pacheco, Colby Rottler, Anthony Tranfaglia 2/4, 2/11

TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 22, at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall (Via Zoom **) on the Request for A Determination of Applicability submitted by Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division, 10 Park Plaza, Room 4260, Boston, MA 02116. The proposed project is to remove HMA and Portland cement concrete sidewalks and wheelchair ramps and install concrete sidewalks and wheelchair ramps, granite curb, thermoplastic crosswalks, pavement markings, utility adjustments, drainage adjustments, and signage. The project is located at the "T" intersection of Fairhaven Rd (Route 6) and River Rd, and is further identified as Lot 88 Map 21 on Assessor Map Lot 174 Map 17.
**Contact Elizabeth Leidhold, Agent of the Conservation Commission by email at ELeidhold@mattapoisett.net for the Zoom Meeting Information. 2/4

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7 days a week
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Junior High School, has announced the Students of the Month for December 2020. Green Team: **Clara Bonney** and **Luke DeVoe**; Orange Team: **Noah Bellefeuille** and **Heer Patel**; Blue Team: **Aaron Portelance** and **Emily Daniels**; Red Team: **Marc Donati** and **Sasha Volkema**; Purple Remote Team: **Kai Uhlin** and **Sophia Cruz**.

Mattapoisett Library February Young Adult Programming

STEAM Projects To-Go brings a new project for February! STEAM Projects To-Go are created for busy teens, grades 6 to 12, who still want to engage with library programming and their community. This month's project will explore paper engineering – the branch of engineering that deals with the use of physical science and life sciences in combination with mathematics to convert raw materials into useful paper products and co-products. The project will be to create a paper structure that can hold weight. Further, it will inspire teens to take it one step further with a list of extension projects.

Each Steam Project To-Go includes supplies needed for the project, instructions, information about the theme, a library book related to the theme, and ideas for more projects. If you are interested in getting a STEAM to-go project, register at the library's website (mattapoisettlibrary.org) on the calendar, or by calling the library. You can register at any time between now and **February 28**. Once you have registered, you will be contacted to arrange pick up (library card required). If there are no spots left, please register for the waiting list.

This month, the library is also continuing to offer Dungeons and Dragons on Zoom! Recommended for patrons ages 12 and up. New players are always welcome. Join us on Saturday, **February 6**, and Saturday, **February 20**, from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm as we unravel the mysteries haunting the landscape of River's Corner. If you are interested in signing up for both or one of those dates, visit our website (mattapoisettlibrary.org) or call the library for more information.

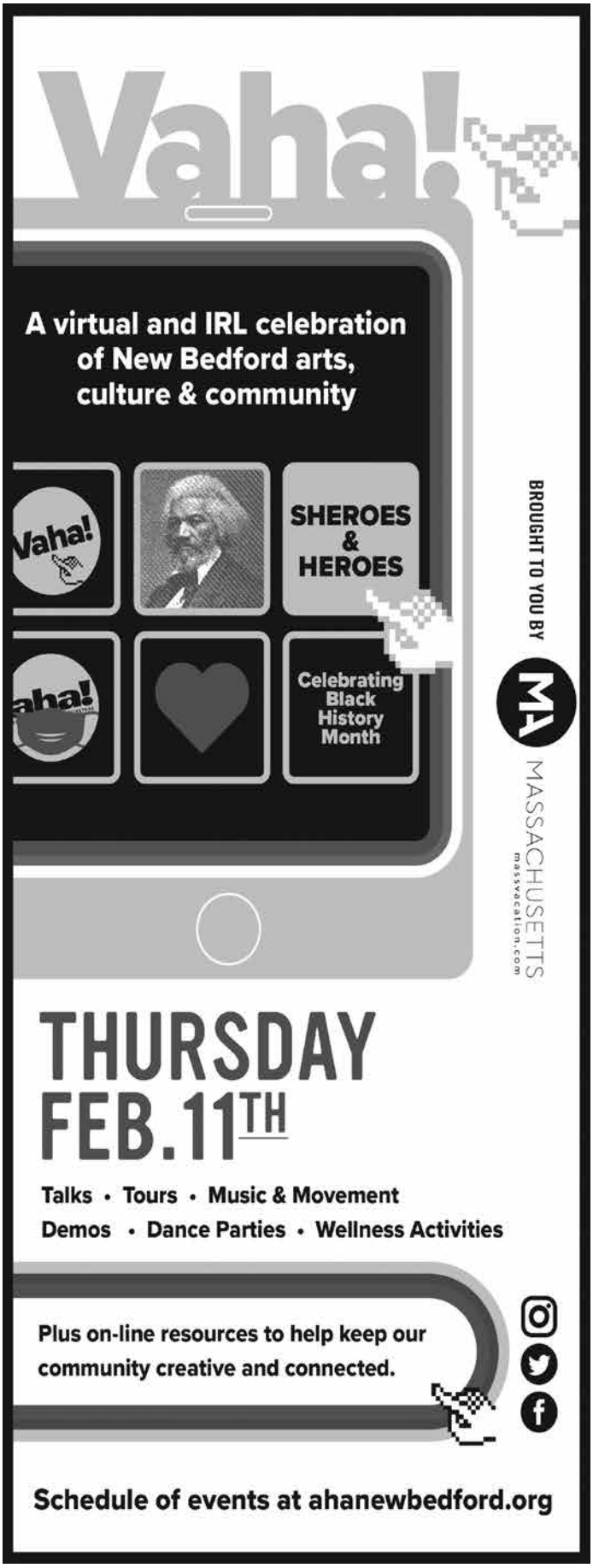
Please contact Michelle Skaar at mskaar@sailsinc.org or call the library. All programs are free and open to the public.

Mattapoisett Congregational Church

Mattapoisett Congregational Church, UCC, continues to post weekly worship services on its website and broadcast services through ORCTV.

All are invited to view the services at mattapoisettcongregationalchurch.org, under the "videos" pull-down menu. There you will find recorded services that include scripture, music, prayer, and a brief reflection. A new service is broadcast on ORCTV at 8:00 am on Sunday morning and then rebroadcast at 11:00 am on Wednesday.

Government guidelines and space restrictions for safe gathering prompted church leaders to discontinue in-person worship when the pandemic began. Until late autumn, the church held in-person services outdoors. Now, all services are back online. Please visit the church's website for all the latest information and find us on Facebook.



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

St. Jude's Novena
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayer will be answered. Say it for 9 days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.
Thank You, St. Jude
E.J.N.

ST. JUDE'S NOVENA
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude,worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayer will be answered. Say it for 9 days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.
Thank You, St. Jude. R.K.

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35 years experience.
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sumner6@comcast.net

Tender Hearts Home Health Care
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The Town of Marion, Department of Public Works, is currently accepting applications for a Heavy Motor Equipment Operator/Mechanic - CDL and Hoisting License preferred. This is a full-time union position. Applications are available at www.marionma.gov or at the Marion DPW Office located at 50 Benson Brook Road in Marion. Please call 508-748-3540 to request an application via email.

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270 degree water views from living room/kitchen, 3 bedrooms each with water views! Newly renovated, fully furnished, sleeps 6, 2 full baths. Private neighborhood, access to protected marina, beach, kayaking, biking and more! $400/night (2 night minimum) or $2,500 weekly. Contact dave@mattapoisettboatyard.com or 508-728-5288

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Consignment Furniture
We are looking for furnishings to add to our inventory. Always in need of quality, clean furniture from a smoke and pet free home. Call us for details. 508-997-0166

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Clean outs, dump runs, demolition,
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Basic Package $75
Special: High School & College Students $35
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off the mark by Mark Parisi





"We're switching back to
_ _ _ _ _ _ vacations."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Heave **CRUHL** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Shake **MORTER** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Hitch **RECUSE** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Meld **MELIGN** ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

TODAY'S WORD
___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		6	7				3	
5				8				2
	7				6	9		
		9		7				6
7			2				9	
	4				3	8		
		3	5	1		7		
1			4					5
	9				7		6	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Marion Town Election Nomination Papers

Nomination papers are available and may be obtained by contacting the Marion Town Clerk's office at 508-748-3502, magauran@marionma.gov, or by making an appointment. The deadline to submit the signed nomination papers will be Monday **March 22**, by 5:00 pm. With the new restrictions and difficulties arising as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have outlined some guidelines and suggestions below to help candidates navigate the collection of signatures. Please contact our office if you have any questions.

Open Positions for the May 14, 2021 Election: Board of Assessors (one seat); Marion School Committee (two seats); Board of Health (one seat); Open Space Acquisition Commission (one seat); Board of Selectmen (one seat); Planning Board (two seats).

Suggestions for Obtaining Signatures:

•Candidates may mail/email individual nomination papers to people and ask them to print and sign them and mail them back. Each signer may have their own nomination paper form.

•Candidates may set up a table at a post office (or other public place) and include fresh pens, gloves, and sanitizer.

•Some candidates are announcing the locations of supporters who have covered porches and letting people drop by to sign. Candidates may set specific hours to sign, so their nomination papers don't stay unsupervised for long hours.

•Candidates may advertise designated signing areas/times through social media or mail.

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- **Sanding** and/or **Refinishing** of Existing Wood Floors;
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Scott Walker & Lee Goldman, Owners

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RestorationHWF.com

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A safe environment where children of all ages can learn and grow as they spend their time with us. Our curriculum will enhance their minds to problem solve during group play and learn independence as they engage in one on one interactions with their teachers.

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WWW.COUNTRYSIDECHILDCARE.NET

Contact Bonnie Morrison for more information
bonnie@countrysidechildcare.net





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PLUMB CORNER MALL
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508-763-8007
License # 8119764

MARION LOCATION
381 Front Street
508-748-0048
License # 9018330

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Old, worn kitchen cabinets?
Consider painting them instead of replacement!
Call me to see how this could be an option for you.
508-728-4386

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Order Selectors - Full Time
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Painting 33 years local experience
Interior/Exterior
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Part-Time Administrative Assistant
(16-24 hours/week)
G.A.F. Engineering is looking for a reliable, detailed-oriented person for a busy civil engineering office in Wareham. Duties include answering phones, record keeping, assisting the engineers, and other administrative work. Microsoft Office, computer, and office experience required. Email resume and references to Lynne@gafenginc.com.

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Interior and exterior painting, power washing and small carpentry jobs/repairs. Honest and reliable with 12 years experience. Call Paul 508-961-7350

Pet Food Pantry For Seniors
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SEASONED FIREWOOD
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Snowblowing and shoveling. Call Zane at (774)263-0754 for a free estimate.

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Spring cleaning all year round!
Call Samantha 508-245-9806

ST. JUDE'S NOVENA
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayer will be answered. Say it for 9 days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you, St. Jude. J.F.S.

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Classified Policy: All Classified Advertisements must be prepaid and can be placed at our office or on line at www.wanderer.com.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday at 10:00 am for Thursday's paper.

Classified Rates:
Classified Advertisements are $5.00 for 3 lines or less per week. Each additional line is $1.00 per week. There are an average of six words per line. Bold is an addition $1 per week.

Classified Guidelines:
*As a general rule, there are approximately six words per line in a standard Classified Ad.
*Blank lines cannot be used in Classified Advertisements.
*There is only upper case and lower case lettering.
*No graphics may be used in Classified Advertisements.
*Classified Ads cannot be placed on hold.
*Classified Ads cannot be taken over the phone.

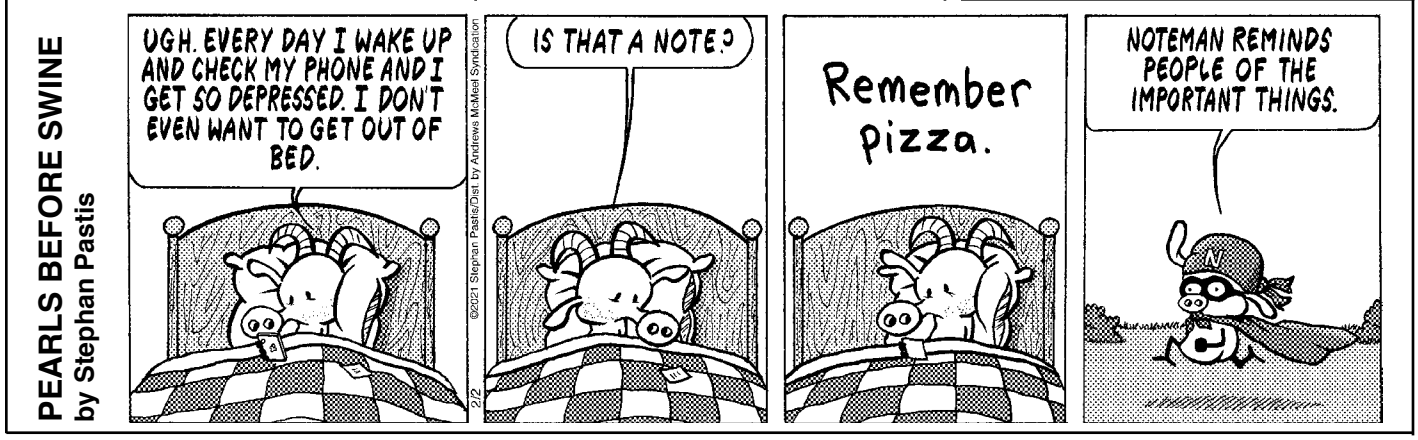
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• All signatures must be in ink; there are no electronic signatures allowed.

• There are no extended deadlines approved by the Massachusetts State Elections Division for the obtaining of nomination signatures.

• The number of signatures required remains the same (20 VERIFIED registered voter signatures).

Reading Star wins Bruins' Signed Jersey

Finn Poulos is one of a select group of young people to receive Boston Bruins prizes for their outstanding participation in Mattapoisett Free Public Library's summer reading program.

Chris Matos, head of the Children's Department, was excited for the prize winner. "We had an unusual summer last year with our program being just kits for the children to pick up, so it was great to have a special incentive for everyone to get excited about," Matos said.



Finn Poulos couldn't be happier. He said he's going home to hang it on his wall.

The Boston Bruins first teamed up with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Massachusetts Library System in 2009. The organizations work with libraries across the



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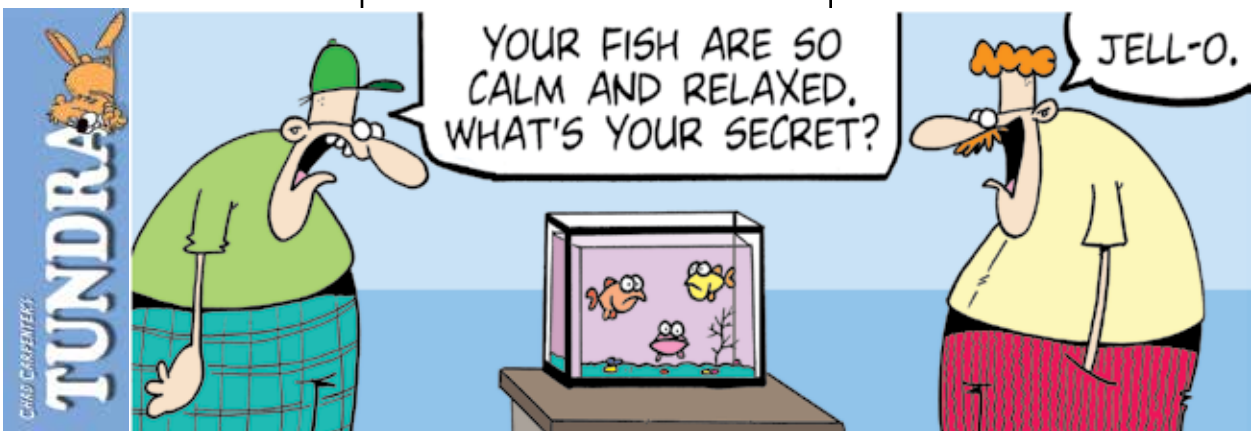


HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Don't forget to wish these people a Happy Birthday!

Cameron Auger	February 4
Hudson Kaiser	February 4
James Auger	February 4
John Carle	February 4
Avia E Fraine	February 5
Matthew Lavoie	February 6
Jared Ducharme	February 7
Joanne C. Doherty	February 7
Joseph Duchaine	February 7
Olivia Audet	February 7
Todd Philie	February 7
Trevor Francis	February 7
Alea Louise Loftus	February 8
Carol Tirrell	February 8
Claire Morel	February 8
Craig LeBlanc	February 8
Gerry Gonneville	February 8
Karen Alexander	February 8
Anne O'Brien-Kakley	February 9
Martha MM Lee	February 9
Mary Riccardella	February 9
Emma C. Mello	February 10

If you would like The Wanderer to announce a birthday for yourself, a friend or family member, please submit your information on-line to us at www.wanderer.com. To submit information by regular mail, please send the person's name (month and day) along with your name and phone number so we can confirm the information to Birthdays, c/o The Wanderer, P.O. Box 102, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. You may submit birthday announcements anytime during the year and they will be published/posted during the appropriate week.



Commonwealth to make reading a part of summer fun for all ages. Tuukka Rask, Zdeno Chara, Brad Marchand and other Bruins players helped libraries develop Favorite Books of the Boston Bruins (available on mass.gov/libraries), a recommended a reading list that includes librarians' picks for the best hockey books.

"The kids really enjoy picking up a book and seeing that it was recommended by one of the Bruins players. It inspires them to want to read it themselves," said Matos.

"Summer reading is fun, but it's also an important part of students' academic success because it helps them avoid the summer slide," said James Lonergan, MBLC director. Kids who read just four books over the summer do better on reading comprehension tests in the fall than their peers who read one or no books over the summer.

On average, more than 400,000 people participate in statewide summer reading programs in libraries across the Commonwealth. Massachusetts has offered statewide online summer reading programs since 2007. To learn more about the benefits of summer reading, please visit www.mass.gov/libraries. The statewide Summer Library Program is made possible through federal funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

'Staycation' Family Scavenger Hunt

The Mattapoisett Land Trust has created a few scavenger hunts for winter exploration. These scavenger hunts will introduce you to a few of the many Mattapoisett Land Trust properties and teach you a few unique things about each site. Look for the 'Staycation Scavenger Hunt' welcome sign on a property and have fun.

Scavenger Hunt Directions: Locate the property you plan to visit on the Mattapoisett Land Trust website www.mattlandtrust.org. Family Activities are in the menu on the left side of the page. There's only one more click to land you at Scavenger Hunts. Scroll through the listed properties for an overview of the property and directions. Each property has a list of items to find— print the list to take with you. When you find an item on the list, check it off. You may document your individual finds with photos. Please take a picture of you and your family somewhere on the property to prove you made it there and that you found everything. Following your visit, you can post your favorite pictures on your Instagram account using the hashtag #MLTscavengerhunt and tag @mattapoisettlandtrust. Facebook users can post pictures and comments on the www.facebook.com/mattlandtrust page. You may also email your photos to MLT via charlie@radville.com, and we will post them for you.

The Art of Helen Hiller Hills

The Winter Exhibit at the Sippican Historical Society opens **February 4**. This exhibit highlights Helen Hiller Hills's work in a variety of media including oils, pen and ink, and pastels. We look forward to welcoming you to the SHS at 141 Front Street, Marion. The Winter Museum Hours are Thursdays 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, and Saturdays 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Sippican Historical Society

Marion (Old Rochester) is one of the oldest towns in the United States, and the Sippican Historical Society maintains an extensive collection of documentation on its historic buildings. In 1998, the Sippican Historical Society commissioned an architectural survey of Marion's historic homes and buildings. Over 100 were cataloged and photographed. SHS will feature one building a week so that the residents of Marion can understand more about its unique historical architecture.

The home at 304 Front Street, in the Old Landing area of Marion, was built in 1859 for shipbuilder David Hathaway. It ranks among the town's most substantial Greek Revival residences and illustrates not only Marion's mid-19th-century maritime prosperity, but also the Old Landing's status as the home of sea captains. Hathaway built coastal schooners at his wharf, and these schooners were an important part of Marion's economy. The coastal schooners carried salt to towns between Nova Scotia and the Carolinas. In fact, the operators of Marion's coastal schooners named the town after Revolutionary War hero Francis Marion (known by the nickname "Swamp Fox") of South Carolina, whose exploits in that area became well known to Marion mariners.



ArtStart Registration Opens in February

The Marion Art Center is pleased to announce the return of ArtStart in 2021. ArtStart is the MAC's summer art program for children aged 4 ½ to 9 years, offered in late June through July. ArtStart teachers are specialists in music, dance, theater, and art, and most teach throughout the year and are professionals in their fields. Activities include arts and crafts, theater, music, games, and storytelling. The MAC is working hard to reimagine its summer camp this year to align with state-recommended safety guidelines, with lots of new fun activities. Camp runs weekly, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm daily. MAC members (at Family level or above) have access to early registration and receive a significant discount on ArtStart tuition. Cost per weekly session is $215 for MAC members and $240 for nonmembers.

The 2021 ArtStart schedule is as follows: Session 1: June 28 – July 2; Session 2: July 5 – 9; Session 3: July 12 – 16; Session 4: July 19 – 23; Session 5: July 26 – 30. Registration opens for MAC members (in person and by phone or email only) on Friday, **February 5**. Registration for nonmembers will open on Friday, **February 26**. Online registration will go live on **February 26**. Due to very limited capacity, ArtStart fees are nonrefundable unless camp is cancelled. Visit us online to find out more information about ArtStart 2021 at marionartcenter.org/artstart.

From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society

Between the 2020 election and Christmas gift giving, the United States Postal Service has been in the news. 1672 was the year mail service in the U.S. began with a post running monthly between New York and Boston. Benjamin Franklin

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Web Page: www.wanderer.com
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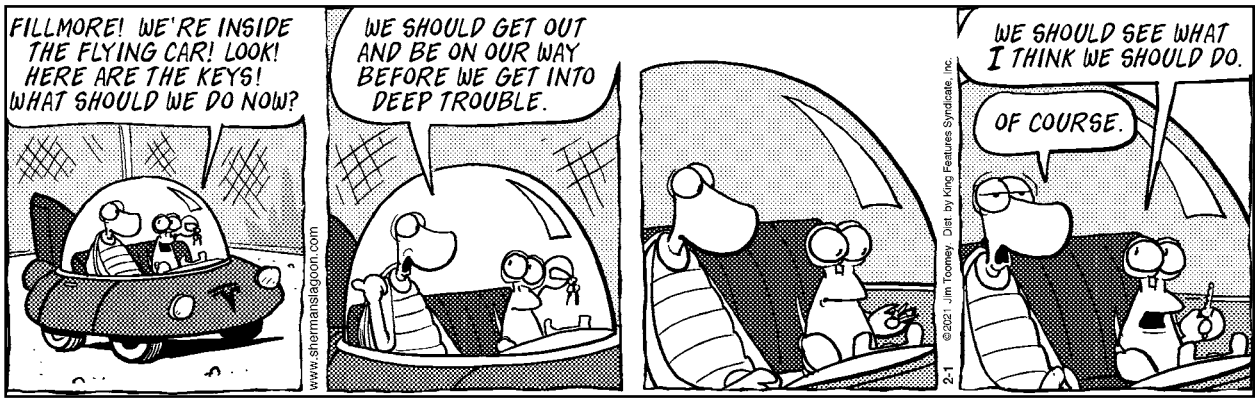
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ISSN 1559-1212

SHERMAN'S LAGOON
by J.P. Toomey



was the first Postmaster General for the colonies, and he added a Philadelphia to Boston route. As populations grew in other cities and towns, more routes were added. In 1787 after the Revolution, all postal arrangements were transferred to the new U.S. government.

By 1790, there were 75 national post offices in the country. By 1880, the number of official offices had risen to 903, but it's unlikely Rochester was on that list. In 1847, the first national postage stamps were issued, and by 1887, free delivery of stamped mail was available in cities with populations of 10,000 throughout the country. It wasn't until 1901 that a Rural Free Delivery system was begun, paving the way for mail to get to sparsely developed areas. Rochester's mail history had its starts and stops, but soon after 1800, Nathan Willis was known as the postmaster for Rochester. The post office, as such, was in his building (on the later site of Fearing Tavern) where he lived and also had a store.



According to Mary Hall Leonard, acknowledged in the 1900s as Rochester's historian, there was a romantic tragedy associated with Willis' post office. Mail for residents was sorted and kept here. As the story goes, Miss Bashie Holmes was engaged to a Mr. Pope, who regularly sent messages of love to her through the mail. Apparently. Mr. Willis' daughter, Sophie, disliked Miss Holmes, and systematically removed the "love letters" sent to her by her fiancée.

Miss Bashie was described as a "high spirited damsel, swift to resent wrongs, and unrelenting in her resentment." When the letters from Mr. Pope stopped arriving, she felt both spurned and neglected. When Mr. Pope tried to assure her that the letters had been sent and he was not ignoring her, she could not be persuaded. Holding close to her resentment, she turned him away. We don't know if either young lady regretted her actions. Miss Bashie lived and died without ever marrying, and Sophie Willis had a "short and strenuous" marriage, dying at the age of 30 in 1821.

Tri-County Symphonic Band presents Soloists for Scholarships

The Tri-County Symphonic Band, under the direction of Philip Sanborn, will present a program entitled "Soloists for Scholarships" on Sunday, **February 14**, at 3:00 pm. The concert will be a virtual live-stream, free-of-charge event, and can be viewed on ORCTV (Comcast Channel 9, or Verizon Channel 36). You can also pick up the free live-stream on the Tri-County Symphonic Band Facebook page (facebook.com/TriCountySymphonicBand) or the ORCTV Facebook page (facebook.com/orctv).

Soloists who have appeared with the band are highlighted in this concert. Among these amazing soloists is alto saxophonist Marcus Monteiro. Born and raised in Marion and educated in the Old Rochester Regional Schools prior to earning his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Massachusetts, Monteiro has gone on to high musical achievements. Called a "force to be reckoned with" by basketball great Shaquille O'Neal, Monteiro is living up to this accolade. He has appeared in jazz festivals throughout the world, as well as the United States. His album, "Another Part of Me," recorded in 2017, has been played frequently on radio stations in Boston and the Southcoast. Monteiro continues to live with his wife and son in Marion, where he teaches musicians of all ages. Marcus Monteiro loves to spread his artistry around Southcoast Massachusetts, and his fame as an up and coming international jazz artist continues to grow rapidly.

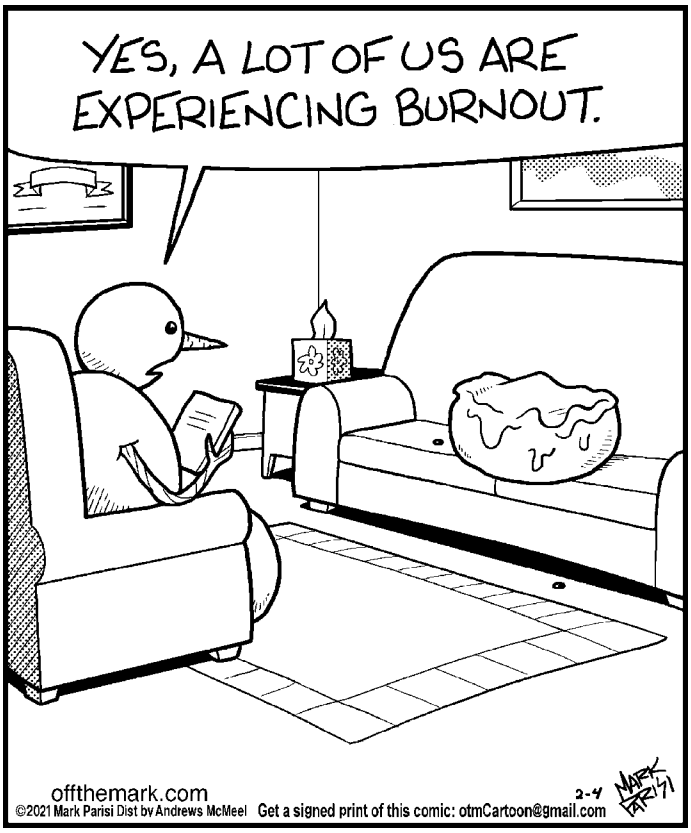
In addition to great jazz masterpieces by Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk, and Duke Ellington, featuring Monteiro as soloist, the concert will also display the virtuosity of Venezuelan trombonist Angel Subero playing the "Concerto for Bass Trombone" by Elizabeth Raum and trumpet soloist Joseph Foley playing the "Trumpet Concerto in E-flat" by Johann Hummel.

For more detailed information, please visit tricountysymphonicband.org.

Real Estate Transactions

Buyer(s)	Seller(s)	Address	City	Date	Price
Davies, Brandon Behan, Michele	Hurley, Patrick G	361 Front St	Marion	01/13/2021	600,000.00
Amster, Jason S Garland, Jill	Graves, Brian Graves, Aline	16 Beech Wood Rd	Mattapoisett	01/13/2021	614,000.00
Villafranca, Daniel W Villafranca, Bethany J	Hedblom, Erik J Hedblom, Tess E	70 Long Plain Rd	Mattapoisett	01/13/2021	460,000.00
Flattery Family Trust Flattery, Sandra G TR Flattery, Bernard J TR	Dudevoir Living Trust Badger, Julie Ann TR	24 Benjaman Dr	Rochester	01/13/2021	394,000.00
Danforth, Anne H TR Anne H Danforth RT	Yoder, Shawn W Yoder, Cynthia L	6 Kerwin Ave	Mattapoisett	01/14/2021	511,500.00
Hurley, Patrick	Traenkle, Jeffrey S	82 Bullivant Farm Rd	Marion	01/14/2021	640,000.00
Daly, Joseph B Daly, Jeanne F	Preserve At Bay Club LLC	35 Split Rock Ln	Mattapoisett	01/15/2021	579,900.00
Kathleen C Mahoney LT	Torwin Development LLC	Shagbark Cir Lot 83	Mattapoisett	01/19/2021	195,000.00

off the mark by Mark Parisi



Local Tides

Day	Date	High a.m.	High p.m.	Low a.m.	Low p.m.
Thursday	February 4	12:45	1:07	6:29	6:30
Friday	February 5	1:43	2:08	8:11	7:39
Saturday	February 6	2:46	3:15	9:53	8:56
Sunday	February 7	3:56	4:24	10:58	10:10
Monday	February 8	5:02	5:27	11:51	11:11
Tuesday	February 9	6:00	6:21		12:38
Wednesday	February 10	6:51	7:10	12:03	1:20
Thursday	February 11	7:38	7:56	12:52	1:55
Friday	February 12	8:21	8:40	1:38	2:24
Saturday	February 13	9:03	9:23	2:20	2:51
Sunday	February 14	9:44	10:05	3:00	3:20
Monday	February 15	10:24	10:46	3:38	3:51
Tuesday	February 16	11:05	11:28	4:17	4:24
Wednesday	February 17	11:47		4:58	5:01
Thursday	February 18	12:09	12:30	5:46	5:44
Friday	February 19	12:51	1:14	6:48	6:36
Saturday	February 20	1:35	2:04	8:15	7:39
Sunday	February 21	2:28	3:03	9:37	8:48

Phases of the Moon		
	Last Quarter	February 4th
	New Moon	February 11th
	First Quarter	February 19th
	Full Moon	March 6th



I Found the Aardvark!

Each week, hidden somewhere in the pages of *The Wanderer* is a tiny drawing of an aardvark. The little guy you are looking for looks exactly like the one pictured above (but don't put down this page as your answer, there's another one hidden somewhere in this issue).

Once you find the aardvark you can submit your answer online and if you are right you will get Aardvark Points! You can then use these points to get cool Aardvark Prizes!

To enter visit: www.wanderer.com and Click on ***I Found the Aardvark***

In the January 28, 2021 edition the Aardvark was on page 28!

PUZZLE ANSWERS

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

A	L	F		A	W	L		O	N	A	L	E	A	S	H		O	D	E	S	
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SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Lurch 2. Tremor;
3. Secure; 4. Mingle

Today's Word

SUMMER

Sudoku Answer

9	1	6	7	2	4	5	3	8
5	3	4	9	8	1	6	7	2
8	7	2	3	5	6	9	1	4
3	5	9	1	7	8	4	2	6
7	6	8	2	4	5	1	9	3
2	4	1	6	9	3	8	5	7
6	8	3	5	1	2	7	4	9
1	2	7	4	6	9	3	8	5
4	9	5	8	3	7	2	6	1

off the mark by Mark Parisi



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– The Friends' Marketplace at Plumb Corner Team

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Cisco Brewing • & many more!

We have over 75 varieties of wine (& more coming) that are only 3/$15 or $5.99 ea.
Mix & Match wines from California, France, Italy, Argentina, Chile, & Australia!

Cheese & Spreads

8 oz. Ball
BelGioioso Mozzarella Cheese $2.99

10 oz. Pkg. Selected
Boar's Head Hummus..... 2/$6

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!

Check our new selections of
Local & Craft Beer, Cider & Wine!

Safety Guidelines
- Face covering required at all times in the store
- Limit trips (buy more at once)
- Only 1 shopper per household when possible
- Keep a safe social distance

Friends Market at Plumb Corner was Voted #1 for Deli & Garden Center/ Nursery for 2020!

READERS CHOICE AWARDS 2020

Friends' marketplace

at PLUMB CORNER

565 Rounseville Rd.
Rochester, MA 02770
Phone: 508.763.5333

We now offer curbside pickup! Please call the store for details.

Open at 7am daily!

Open Daily: 7am–8pm

We reserve the right to limit quantities & correct typographical errors. Illustrations are for design purposes only. Items are while supplies last and no rain checks. Due to current market conditions, item retails may change and products may become unavailable unexpectedly.

SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, February 5 – Thursday, February 11, 2021

Valentine Savings!



Friends'
Premium Black Angus
Top Sirloin Tri-Tip Steak
$8.99 lb.



Friends'
Store Baked
Roast Beef
$12.99 lb.



Barilla
12-16 oz. Selected
(Excludes Protein+ & Gluten Free)
Pasta
$1.69



Food Club
8 oz. Selected
Bars or Shredded
Cheese
2/$5



Corona or Corona Light
12 oz. Cans/Bottles
12 Pack
$17.99



Bread & Butter
750 ml California Chardonnay
Wine
$13.99

Grocery, Dairy, Frozen & Bakery



Food Club
5 lb. All Purpose
Flour
2/$5

17 oz.
Huy Fong Sriracha Sauce **$3.49**

Half Liter Bottles, 6 Pack
Crystal Geyser Water **$1.29**

8 oz. Selected
Progresso Panko Bread Crumbs **$2.29**

10.5-12 oz. Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Lucky Charms, or Honey Nut Cheerios
General Mills Cereal **2/$6**

8.75 oz. Selected
General Mills Chex Mix **2/$5**

16 oz. Selected
Blue Diamond Almonds **$7.99**



La Bree's Bakery
12 oz. 6 ct. Pkg.
Selected
Donuts
$3.49

64 oz. Selected
Blue Diamond Almond Breeze **2/$6**

Dozen, Omega 3, Large, Brown, Organic
Pete & Gerry's Eggs **$5.49**

48 oz. Selected
Breyers **$4.99**

Fresh Baked, 24 oz. Pkg.
Raspberry Pie **$4.99**

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!